Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-94-117
Friday
17 June 1994

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-94-117 *17 June 1994*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An Ω indicates a Foreign Media Note.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Ibero-American Leaders Meet, View Summit Results 1
Cuba's Castro, Chile's Frei Discuss Refugees *[Madrid EFE]* 1
Castro: Asylum-Seekers Want To Emigrate *[Madrid EFE]* 1
Cuban Official: Miami Summit 'a Challenge' *[NOTIMEX]* 1
Central Americans Fail To Meet Castro *[Madrid EFE]* 2
Castro 'Unexpectedly' Meets Reina *[TIEMPO 16 Jun]* 2
Dominican Vice President on Haitian Situation *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 3
Bolivian, Chilean Presidents on Differences *[La Paz TV]* 3
Salinas Proposed as Head of World Trade Directorate *[Mexico City TV]* 3
Mexican President Interviewed on Summit Outcome *[Mexico City TV]* 4
Leaves Cartagena *[Mexico City TV]* 5
'Fine Print' Overcomes Snags in Declaration *[Madrid EFE]* 5
Caldera, Gaviria, Salinas View G-3 Trade Accord *[Caracas Radio]* 5
Colombian Ministers Discuss Cartagena Summit *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 6
Uruguayan President Challenged on TV Monopoly *[Madrid EFE]* 6
Further on Summit Leader Speeches on 14 Jun 7
Salinas Addresses Summit *[LA JORNADA 15 Jun]* 7
Guatemala's De Leon Seeks Support *[NOTIMEX]* 8
Figueres Defends Feasible Development *[Madrid EFE]* 8
Nicaragua's Chamorro on Private Sector *[NOTIMEX]* 9
Honduras' Reina Proposes Economic Community *[NOTIMEX]* 9
Justice Ministers View Money Laundering *[EL TIEMPO 10 Jun]* 9

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Castro: Ibero-American Summit 'Positive' *[Havana Radio]* 11
Castro CNN Interview on Summit, OAS *[Havana Radio]* 11
Castro on Embassy Occupations, U.S. Relations *[NOTIMEX]* 12
Cuba To Host Ninth Ibero-American Summit *[Havana Radio]* 13
Cartagena Summit Document: 'Step Forward' *[Havana Radio]* 13
U.S. Freezes Organization's Bank Accounts *[Havana Radio]* 14
Russia, Cuba Create Research Organization *[Havana Radio]* 14
Statutes Signed for Joint Association *[Havana Radio]* 14
U.S. 'Double Standard' on Immigration Noted *[Havana Radio]* 14
Country Intends To Carry Out Nuclear Plans *[Hamburg DPA]* 15
Oil Drilling Enterprise Exceeding Goals *[Havana Radio]* 16
Agriculture Minister Inaugurates Rice Harvest in Granma *[Havana Radio]* 16

Barbados

BLP Officials on Elections, No-Confidence Vote *[Castries TV]* 16

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Criticizes U.S. Request on Elections *[Madrid EFE]* 16
Balaguer Opposes Military Intervention in Haiti *[Madrid EFE]* 17

Haiti

Jonassaint Denounces International Community *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 17
Sees Need for Elections; Military Parades Held *[Madrid EFE]* 18
Parades in 3 Cities Support Cedras *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 18
Lawmaker Recommends Intra-Haitian Negotiations *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 19
FRAPH on Resistance to U.S. Intervention *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 19

Jamaica

First Group of Haitians Arrives for Processing *[Kingston Radio]* 20
Foreign Minister on Sea Convention Law, Headquarters *[Castries TV]* 20

MEXICO

10,000 Demonstrate in Chiapas for Peace *[Madrid EFE]* 21
Chiapas Peace Commissioner Camacho Solis Resigns *[Madrid EFE]* 21
Further on Resignation *[NOTIMEX]* 21
Peace Commissioner on Resolving Conflict *[EL FINANCIERO 15 Jun]* 21
President Salinas on Peace Process, Cease-Fire *[Mexico City TV]* 22

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Courts Deny U.S. Extradition Request *[ACAN]* 23
Figueres 'Very Satisfied' With Summit Results *[AFP]* 23

Guatemala

Government, Guerrillas Begin Peace Talks in Oslo *[Oslo AFTENPOSTEN 14 Jun]* 23
President 'Optimistic' About Talks *[Madrid EFE]* 24
Third Electric Pylon Dynamited *[NOTIMEX]* 24

Honduras

'Routine' Changes Made in Military Hierarchy *[LA TRIBUNA 16 Jun]* 24
Armed Forces Chief on Closing of Investigation Department *[LA TRIBUNA 13 Jun]* 25
Army Commander on Border Patrols With Nicaragua
[EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS 13 Jun] 26

Nicaragua

Finance Minister, Bank President on Paris Club Loans *[Managua TV]* 26

Panama

COPA Airline To Suspend Haiti Flights 26 Jun *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 16 Jun]* 26

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

President Menem Returns From Ibero-American Summit *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 28
Panama's Endara Arrives on Private Visit *[Madrid EFE]* 28
Supreme Court Decision Will Affect Reelection *[PAGINA/12 14 Jun]* 28
Ω Media Notes: Economic Roundup *[LA NACION 12 May, etc.]* 28

Bolivia

Drug Enforcement Force Destroys Huge Cocaine Laboratory *[EL MUNDO 3 Jun]* 30

Brazil

Franco Accompanies Nephew's Body From Cartagena Summit, Looks 'Depressed' *[AGENCIA ESTADO]* 30
Finance Minister: No Possibility of Minimum Wage Increase *[AGENCIA ESTADO]* 30
Radio, Television Stations' Ownership Described *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 13 Jun]* 30
Politicians' Radio, TV Stations Listed *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 13 Jun]* 31
Court Upholds Law Banning Campaign Donations From Unions *[Brasilia Radio]* 32

Chile

Lautaro Movement Leaders Arrested in Police Operation *[Santiago TV]* 33
Further on Acquittal of General Stange, Others *[Santiago TV]* 33

Colombia

De Greiff Defends Reduced Sentences for Drug Traffickers *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 34
National Registrar Discusses Voting Details *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 34
Roundup of Electoral Developments *[EL TIEMPO 9 Jun, etc.]* 35

Ecuador

President Appoints New Police Commander General *[Quito Radio]* 36
Roundup of Economic Developments *[Madrid EFE, etc.]* 36

Peru

Fujimori Returns, Says Cuba Poses No Threat *[Madrid EFE]* 37
Perez de Cuellar Rejects Charges by Fujimori *[Lima Radio]* 37

Uruguay

Menem, Wasmosy, Lacalle Meet on Regional Integration *[LA MANANA 11 Jun]* 37
Channel Dredging Notes Signed With Argentina *[EL PAIS 11 Jun]* 38
Editorial Praises River Plate Agreements *[EL PAIS 10 Jun]* 39
Senate Approves Constitutional Reform Bill *[EL PAIS 9 Jun]* 39
Chamber of Deputies Approve *[Montevideo Radio]* 40
Vice President Interviewed on Election *[EL PAIS 5 Jun]* 40
Batllist Forum, PGP Sign Electoral Agreement *[EL PAIS 9 Jun]* 41
Colorado Party Ticket Leads in Poll *[EL PAIS 5 Jun]* 41
University Students End Strike, Resume Classes *[EL PAIS 10 Jun]* 41

Venezuela

Minister: Coup Rumors Aimed at Creating Anxiety *[Caracas Radio]* 42
Fogade Considers Increasing Deposit Guarantees *[Caracas Radio]* 42
Banking Officials Express 'Amazement' at Intervention *[Caracas Radio]* 43
Banks To Reopen 20 Jun; Guarantees Confirmed *[Caracas Radio]* 43
Police Find 42 Gasoline Bombs in School *[NOTIMEX]* 43

Ibero-American Leaders Meet, View Summit Results

Cuba's Castro, Chile's Frei Discuss Refugees

PA1606191394 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1737 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 16 Jun (EFE)—Chilean President Eduardo Frei has reported to EFE that, at the end of a 30-minute meeting in this city, where the Fourth Ibero-American Summit was closed yesterday, he and Cuban President Fidel Castro today agreed to seek a coordinated solution of the case of eight Cubans who entered the Chilean consulate in Havana on Wednesday.

"The two countries' foreign ministries will work together for a solution," Frei said. He admitted that this is a complex problem and that Castro reiterated to him his government's position of not authorizing the departure of anyone who resorts to forceful measures to secure a departure.

Frei described as positive his meeting with Castro, a meeting held to review current bilateral relations. Frei said Castro showed considerable interest in the Chilean Government's social programs to eliminate extreme poverty.

As for resuming diplomatic relations, Frei said this possibility will be considered during Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina's visit to Santiago late in August. Nevertheless, Frei pointed out that the current status of relations, on a consular level, is adequate "for the time being."

Frei reiterated both his rejection of the U.S. economic blockade against Cuba and the need for Cuba to implement a more democratic form of government, but that any decisions on this subject "can be made by the Cuban Government only."

Frei added that Castro, "respectfully and with a friendly disposition," listened to the recommendations made by most of the heads of state and government attending the Fourth Ibero-American Summit. "Everything depends on him (Castro)," he said.

Before meeting with Castro, Frei had a working breakfast with the presidents of El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Honduras, as well as with Nicaraguan, Panamanian, and Dominican officials, and he later met with Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy.

Most of the discussion at these meeting consisted of Chile's cooperation programs with these countries in several fields related to education and culture, as well as commercial and financial cooperation, Frei said. He termed the conversations "very positive."

In a news conference later, Frei reiterated his positive assessment of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit, saying it can be the starting point for "a true integration process."

Castro: Asylum-Seekers Want To Emigrate

PA1606185494 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1758 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 16 Jun (EFE)—Cuban President Fidel Castro believes that the entrance of Cubans into embassies and consulates in Havana does not constitute "any type of political problem."

In statements to Radio Cadena Nacional (RCN), from Cartagena de Indias, where he attended the Fourth Ibero-American Summit of Chiefs of State and Government, Castro said "the principal cause is that the people want to emigrate."

Dozens of Cubans have entered the Belgian and German diplomatic and consular missions in the Cuban capital in the past few days requesting "political asylum."

"They do so," Castro told RCN, "to promote illegal departures from the country and to promote incidents in order to reap political dividends." He added that "in our country, whoever wants to leave can do so."

Cuban Official: Miami Summit 'a Challenge'

PA1606193394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1736 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, 16 Jun (Notimex)—Cuban parliament leader Ricardo Alarcon said today that the Summit of the Americas will represent "a challenge and an opportunity" because it may suggest a desire on the part of the United States to restate its relations with the region.

Alarcon said the meeting—requested by the United States and scheduled for December in Miami, Florida—is "a source of concern" because there have been no consultations to establish a date, agenda, and possible resolutions for the meeting.

This failure to establish the content of the meeting "deserves the deepest thought," said Alarcon, who was a member of the Cuban delegation to the Fourth Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, which ended yesterday in Cartagena de Indias.

The former Cuban foreign minister said the U.S. Government talks "of a new system of relations regarding security, which would not be based on troops and military bases," and also of having "good intentions where trade is concerned."

"The fact that Cuba and Haiti will not attend the hemispheric meeting will not undermine its merits, if something like this is accomplished," he said. However, "if this is not the case, there might be cause for even greater concern."

The president of the Cuban National Assembly of the Peoples Government told reporters he has reservations

because the summons to the meeting comes "from the place that has summoned the countries of the region that have hidden agendas."

In my opinion the presence of U.S. OAS Ambassador Harriet Babbit at the Fourth Ibero-American Summit was disadvantageous because the forum has thus far abstained from granting observer status to third country governments.

"Babbit is involved in the organization of the Miami Summit for purposes that may differ from the original plan," he said.

Alarcon explained that due to this situation Cuban President Fidel Castro expressed in his speech at the Fourth Ibero-American Summit on Tuesday, "certain ideas which we believe Latin America should discuss" at the Miami meeting.

Castro denied that Cuba will oppose the Summit of the Americas, adding that "we are pleased that our neighboring countries of Latin America and the Caribbean can firmly and vigorously defend our peoples' interest at that meeting."

The Cuban leader remains in Cartagena de Indias—a port on Colombia's Caribbean coast, 1,200 km north of Bogota—where he plans to hold bilateral meetings on Thursday with other regional leaders.

Central Americans Fail To Meet Castro

PA1606191194 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1744 GMT 16 Jun 94

[By Emilio Crespo]

[Excerpts] Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 16 Jun (EFE)—The Central American presidents, who had planned to meet with Cuban President Fidel Castro today to request the island's democratization, have decided not to hold the meeting in light of the reluctance of several presidents who have not forgotten the role Havana once played in their region.

Although the official explanation of the cancellation of the meeting was "agenda problems," different Central American sources said several presidents did not want to meet Castro because of the scant affinity they feel toward him because of his support for the now nearly extinct guerrilla movements on the isthmus.

Salvadoran sources told EFE that, in particular, for President Armando Calderon Sol of the right-wing ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], such a meeting would have been difficult. Even though peace has come to El Salvador, it would have been objectionable for Calderon Sol to meet with one of the politicians who fostered the military conflict in El Salvador.

Calderon Sol, who took office on 1 June, today said Cuba still has a long way to go in terms of encouraging freedom and democracy. He added that as long as Cuba does not create more opportunities for freedom, there will be no progress in cooperation with the island.

"All of us who love democracy and expect respect for human dignity must raise this topic (at the summits)," the Salvadoran president added. [passage omitted]

Costa Rican President Jose Maria Figueres today commented on the failed meeting with the Cuban leader by saying it was not held "because the topics we would have addressed with President Castro were broadly reviewed at the (summit's) private session on Wednesday afternoon."

Officially, Honduran Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal [title as received] and Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Naranjo told EFE that agenda problems and the presidents' departure for their home nations today made the meeting with Castro impossible. This meeting had sparked interest because the six Central American presidents, who met Monday in Costa Rica to prepare a joint position on the Fourth Ibero-American Summit, had issued in San Jose a communique asking for Cuba's democratization. [passage omitted]

Castro 'Unexpectedly' Meets Reina

PA1606172794 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jun 94 p 6

[Text] Tegucigalpa—Honduran correspondents invited by the government to travel to Cartagena de Indias reported that despite President Carlos Roberto Reina having said that he would not meet with his counterpart Fidel Castro, the Honduran president was unexpectedly visited in his suite by the Cuban president.

After a 20-minute conversation with the Cuban leader, Reina stated that should Cuba rejoin the Organization of American States (OAS), it would represent a "great victory for America."

The Honduran president pointed out that the proposal made by Argentina, Chile, Venezuela, and Colombia with respect to a transition to democracy taking place in Cuba, is viewed "from another perspective" by Cuban President Fidel Castro.

In reference to the pressures that could be applied by the Central American countries for Cuba to be readmitted into the OAS, and for the United States to lift the embargo against that nation, Reina pointed out that "Cuba was a country penalized by the OAS which is the organization that has allowed countries the independence to establish diplomatic relations. However, President Fidel Castro sees it from another perspective."

According to the Honduran president, Cuba must again be a "full" OAS member. "I believe that Costa Rican President Figueres' proposal to solve these two issues can be solved in just one day. There is no more cold war, no reason to continue with the blockade, because now there are all sorts of democratic legal provisions offered by the Inter-American system. Cuba, as a country that has had all sorts of problems, can return to become a full OAS member."

Dominican Vice President on Haitian Situation

PA1606172294 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1409 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Report on interview with Dominican Vice President Carlos Morales Troncoso by unidentified reporter in Cartagena de Indias on 16 June—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Amid complications, restrictions, and endless competition with the local media, we were able to approach Dominican Vice President Carlos Morales, and ask him about the Cuban [as heard] situation.

[Morales] What is not being said is that we, Dominicans, are the hardest hit by the Haitian situation. As a result of the continuing Haitian problem, our country has over 1 million illegal Haitian residents, which constitutes an extremely heavy burden. We support a prompt, but democratic solution.

Bolivian, Chilean Presidents on Differences

PY1606204894 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Let us now report on President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada's participation in the Fourth Ibero-American Summit.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada held a working breakfast meeting with Chilean President Eduardo Frei this morning. The two presidents discussed such issues as exports and the Bolivian claim to the sea coast.

[Sanchez] We discussed it, we looked at it, and we said that this is a current problem. How can we solve it? The solution has not... [Sanchez recording ends abruptly]

[Reporter] The foreign media asked President Sanchez if a sea outlet was the only way for Bolivia to integrate itself into a modern economy.

[Sanchez] The sea outlet is the only way, but this is not necessarily related to... [Sanchez recording ends abruptly]

[Reporter] In addition to the issue of the sea outlet, other important issues for the two countries were also discussed.

[Frei] Issues such as economic complementation, physical integration, seeking common positions on matters of education, and joint binational projects such as natural gas, which is an important energy issue for Bolivia.

[Reporter] How would you label this meeting?

[Frei] Positive and very cordial.

[Reporter] The result of the working breakfast meeting between the two presidents was the preparation of an agenda for the two foreign ministries. [end recording]

The meeting was positive and cordial, an important meeting. There are differences, and we are under the impression that President Frei recognizes them despite the Chilean official position that Chile has nothing pending with Bolivia. There is a long way to go, but this process, which we believe is loosening up, is a good one, without illusions but with clear ideas. Let us now listen to Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada at the Ibero-American Summit:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Are there plans for a new meeting between the Bolivian and Chilean presidents next September?

[Sanchez] Yes, that is true, and a request was made to the foreign ministries to prepare an agenda for the different committees to start working, looking at the problems. The sea issue was raised, but we did not make any progress on that point. We want to make progress on all issues, including the sea issue.

[Reporter] What about natural gas?

[Sanchez] The natural gas issue was also definitely raised, and there seems to be a very good predisposition and some contacts with Chilean state companies. This kind of negotiation seems to be the best way for people who are used to working on projects, and not to getting involved in diplomatic subtleties.

[Reporter] Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada labeled the Fourth Ibero-American Summit positive. [end recording]

Salinas Proposed as Head of World Trade Directorate

PA1606152694 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Report by Jaime Guerrero from Cartagena de Indias]

[Text] Last night, President Carlos Salinas de Gortari arrived in Mexico from Colombia, where he participated in the Fourth Ibero-American Summit. At the end of the meeting in Cartagena de Indias, the Latin American presidents endorsed a proposal to appoint Salinas as head of the World Trade Directorate, which will replace GATT next year.

Ibero-America is not free from risk. In the presence of Ibero-American heads of state and government, Salinas warned that industrialized countries want to impose social dumping on developing countries.

[Begin Salinas recording] They want to blame us for selling at lower prices and failing to adhere to environmental protection and labor standards. [end recording]

Salinas said that trade and investment provide the only means to meet the region's urgent need for growth. His participation in promoting the Cartagena Summit was acknowledged. In this framework, Argentina proposed Salinas to head the World Trade Directorate, which will replace GATT next year. The proposal was accepted by the rest of the Latin American countries.

[Begin Salinas recording] The organization is in a stage of formation and is expected to become fully operational only next year. For this reason, I affirm that I am fully devoted to my duty to serve the Mexican people, and I will continue to do so until 30 November 1994. [end recording]

Salinas described as encouraging the outcome of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit. Regarding the controversy on Cuba, which was urged to move toward democracy, Salinas said this.

[Begin Salinas recording] When the Ibero-American Summit was promoted, it was never expected that there would be a consensus among those attending the meeting. Instead. the idea was that, within the framework of the plurality that marks us, we would be able to agree on similar purposes and goals. [end recording]

The summit has come to an end. The Ibero-American countries know that they must be integrated into subregional markets, otherwise the world trade changes will carry them away.

Mexican President Interviewed on Summit Outcome

PA1606140494 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0430 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Interview with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari by XEW correspondent Felix Cortes in Cartagena de Indias; date not given; from the "24 Hours" newscast—live or recorded]

[Text] [Cortes] At the conclusion of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit here in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari will not prepare for the fifth summit, which will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in a year. Mr. President, I would like to have a human reaction on the part of Carlos Salinas de Gortari, a political assessment. How does it feel to leave a creature, in whose gestation, birth, growth, and development you had a primary role, now that that creature has learned how to walk.

[Salinas] The most important thing is for initiatives to become institutions. For the first time in history, in fact, all the chiefs of state and government of the Ibero-American nations met in 1991 in Guadalajara; this served as a formidable backdrop. The residents of that city showed their generosity, enthusiasm, and hospitality and served as an exceptional framework for that first Ibero-American summit. For me it is truly encouraging that what emerged first as an idea, as a mere proposal, later became in Guadalajara this Ibero-American initiative, confirming that Mexico does not forget its roots when it envisions the future.

[Cortes] A document, which all the participants at the Cartagena de Indias summit signed, recognizes the work of Mexico and the work of Carlos Salinas de Gortari in being capable of convoking what has turned out to be a reality, which someone five years ago would have said was impossible to achieve. The mere gathering of diverse personalities—often showing unnoticeable differences and other times a marked contrast—sitting down at the same table is a triumph. Specifically, however, what were the achievements of the previous three summits and this one in Cartagena de Indias in particular?

[Salinas] The specific agreements are twofold. The first is that it was confirmed that a state of pluralism in the representation of chiefs of state and government at this Ibero-American summit could exist and still yield common goals. In other words, common purposes can be built amid diversity. I have always believed in pluralism. I also believe that diversity can be transformed into a similar purpose to achieve better living standards for our peoples. This was demonstrated in the Ibero-American summit in Guadalajara and in subsequent summits: the one in Madrid in 1992, the one in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, in 1993, and this one in Cartagena de Indias in 1994. This is the first concrete result. Political dialogue within the framework of pluralism permits achieving common objectives. The second concrete result is that, through this framework of achieving consensus and dialogue, which have marked the Ibero-American Summit, we have managed to secure concrete initiatives. This has resulted in the opening of bigger markets and the possibility of selling more of our products and increasing trade and has meant the creation of more jobs and more opportunities for more Mexicans.

[Cortes] Mr. President, all of those who have been sitting around that table during these two days agree on the fundamentals. They agree on the necessity of free trade, cooperation, understanding, exchanges, rapprochement, and cordiality. When one reaches a thorny topic, as is the Cuban political system, then not everybody has similar views. Would you say, as some observers have said, that this Ibero-American community, although it sits at the same table, is divided?

[Salinas] I would say that we never sought uniformity. What we sought, I repeat, recognizing the pluralism of systems in the region, was to find common points of agreement. The results show that it is possible to find similar goals, despite the diversities and differences in the political systems of the region. If there is respect and recognition of the existing pluralism—we have demonstrated they exist—one can reach such consensus. We never intended to have any country similar to another or to be a clone of another system. No, recognizing the differences, we wished to stress that we have common roots and similar desires.

[Cortes] Finally, Mr. President, are you saddened by the fact that you will not continue to attend these meetings?

[Salinas] Well, the meetings will continue to be held as part of their institutional structure. I must tell you that I am leaving very animated by these meetings. I am stimulated by the existing recognition of our Mexico. It is important to underscore this, because in recent months we have experienced difficult times, tragic and sad moments. Despite this, however, there is broad

recognition internationally of what Mexico has constructed with great effort in recent years. Without failing to recognize the challenges and problems that we face, we can count on the fact that there is recognition of our work and of Mexican realities, which are many and varied in different fields. That is truly encouraging.

[Cortes] Don Carlos, thank you very much.

Leaves Cartagena

PA1606140294 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0430 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Telephone report by reporter Raul Rene Trujillo from Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, including interjections by announcer Javier Zabludovsky in XEW studios in Mexico City; from the "24 Hours" newscast—live]

[Text] [Announcer Zabludovsky] Hello, Raul Rene.

[Trujillo] Good evening. This is to report that a few minutes ago President Carlos Salinas de Gortari left Cartagena to return to Mexico.

[Zabludovsky] At what time did he leave?

[Trujillo] He departed at 2040, sir, from the presidential hangar. We asked him two questions. He said that Latin American integration is truly progressing. He termed his visit to Colombia and Cuba as very fruitful, an example of which he said was the free trade agreement signed by Mexico, Venezuela, and Colombia. That is the report, sir.

[Zabludovsky] Thank you very much.

'Fine Print' Overcomes Snags in Declaration

PA1606153594 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1300 GMT 16 Jun 94

[By Alejandro Mendez]

[Text] Cartagena de Indias (Colombia), 16 Jun (EFE)—Diplomacy has again rearranged words and has resorted to the "fine print" of international agreements to overcome points of discrepancy among the 21 countries that signed the "Declaration of Cartagena de Indias."

The situation of Cuba and the "landlocked position" of Bolivia and Paraguay were the cause of difficult negotiations among the foreign ministers of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit, which concluded Wednesday in the Colombian Caribbean city of Cartagena de Indias, according to different diplomatic sources.

Another thorny issue was the Argentine proposal to include an antiabortion statement, which was debated under the umbrella of the "defense of human life" to which the declaration finally alluded. The negotiations led to a change in the text, which toned down the implicit all-out defense of privatization that appeared in the preliminary drafts of the document.

Also, the recommendation to prevent an "excessive emphasis" on economic adjustment plans, which could affect state help to the neediest population, was eliminated from the draft. The corrected and eliminated points were a source of irritation to countries, such as Argentina, which have seen their levels of absolute poverty and unemployment rise, despite a parallel growth of the gross national product achieved through fiscal austerity.

The document, which maintained the neoliberal aspect of the policies that are applied by the majority of the countries, was signed by Cuban leader Fidel Castro, in exchange for a more vigorous mention of the U.S. embargo against the island. The mention of Cuba, although indirect, includes the words "coercive" and "unilateral," which happens for the first time in an Ibero-American statement since the "summits" began four years ago in the Mexican city of Guadalajara.

Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, who organized and hosted the event, asked that the "landlocked" topic that annoys Chile be discussed by the foreign ministers of that country, together with the foreign ministers of Paraguay and Bolivia. Bolivians have claimed formally since 1979 the territories on the Pacific Ocean that they lost to the Chileans in a war last century. The controversy was unleashed by the recommendation to "seek more favorable conditions for countries of relatively less development," with a "special" mention of the "landlocked" position of Paraguay and Bolivia.

The foreign ministers struck out the names of Paraguay and Bolivia and replaced the controversial wording with "the factors of the geographical situation referred to in the last paragraph of Article 18 of the 1980 Montevideo Treaty (ALADI)," that is the unnamed "landlocked" situation. Argentine President Carlos Menem promised Pope John Paul II he would promote an Ibero-American condemnation of abortion, with a view to the upcoming World Conference on Population and Development that will be held this coming September in Cairo.

Laws in Spain, Portugal, and Mexico, however, give women the right to resort to abortion under given conditions. This precluded reaching a unanimous decision. The matter was overcome at the last minute with the inclusion of the "commitment" to "respect the right of human life, the right to health, and the quality of life of mothers and children" and "to contribute in an relevant manner" to the meeting in Cairo.

Caldera, Gaviria, Salinas View G-3 Trade Accord

PA1606132494 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Report by Vicente Briceno; from the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] President Rafael Caldera has said the bolivar fluctuations will not affect the future of the Group of Three [G-3] free trade agreement. He made this statement at a joint news

conference in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, where the G-3 countries are meeting and where the Fourth Ibero-American Summit is taking place.

[Begin Caldera recording] Bolivar fluctuations will not affect the G-3 free trade agreement, because there will always be ways to prevent any eventuality from obstructing the basic element: trade among sister nations. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria has said the trade agreement will come into effect soon due to the rules previously stipulated in the treaty signed by Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico. The first reaction to this treaty will come from investors of the three countries.

[Begin Gaviria recording] Although an immediate deregulation was included in the agreement, the G-3 free trade agreement is of utmost importance for a number of products. We must bear in mind the lifting of customs duties will take 10 years; this is why free trade will be progressive. I believe, however, the same thing that happened when Mexico signed a free trade agreement with Chile will happen again: the doubling in trade within a year, because the expectations and clear-cut rules have made businessmen aware that there were regulations that would control trade and make trade grow. We hope the agreement among Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico will yield very significant results soon. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has said the prospects of this agreement regarding larger markets and production are compelling mechanisms with which to defeat poverty. The Aztec head of state was questioned about the G-3's contribution to help fight poverty.

[Begin Salinas recording] We in Mexico are convinced the only way to permanently defeat poverty is to recover sustained economic growth, because without well-paying jobs there are no possibilities of permanently eradicating poverty. [end recording]

Colombian Ministers Discuss Cartagena Summit

PA1706020094 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Interview with Colombian Foreign Trade Minister Juan Manuel Santos and Economic Development Minister Mauricio Cardenas by unidentified reporters at the Cartagena Convention Center in Cartagena; from the "National Newscast"—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Minister Juan Manuel Santos, from your perspective as foreign trade minister, what have been the most important aspects of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit?

[Santos] First of all, the signing of the G-3 [Group of Three—Colombia, Venezuela, and Mexico] Agreement. As President Gaviria said, it is the most important trade agreement in Colombian history. This was a specific achievement. Another important point is that the main subject of the summit was integration and commerce. For us, it has been very satisfying to see that what we have been doing for the past two or three years is precisely what all the other Ibero-American countries want to do: promote integration and free trade, create more jobs, increase production. The conclusion of this summit in the areas of commerce and integration totally coincide with Colombian policies. Therefore, it has been very satisfactory for us to see that what we have done during the past three years is supported at the Ibero-American and international levels.

[Reporter] We will now interview Development Minister Mauricio Cardenas on today's working session. What are the plans for investment and development for these countries?

[Cardenas] We had a very interesting meeting this morning, during which Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez presented important recommendations on ways to accelerate economic growth in Latin America. We believe it is fundamental to follow up on the proposed initiatives with special emphasis on social investment, particularly on education. Those aspects are considered necessary to accelerate economic development in our region and to enable us to achieve an annual economic growth rate of 7 or 8 percent, which is the goal of all Latin American countries.

Uruguayan President Challenged on TV Monopoly

PY1606171494 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2239 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias (Colombia), 15 Jun (EFE)—Forty American human rights organizations today asked Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle to review his decision to allow a private television monopoly in his country.

The human rights organizations' petition agrees with another petition signed by 23 Latin American, Spanish, and Portuguese newspaper directors who participated in a press seminar in Cartagena de Indias, where the Fourth Ibero-American Summit is being held.

Luis Alberto Lacalle signed a decree three months ago approving cable television operations by a private group that dominates Montevideo's three open channels.

A communique issued by these human rights organizations points out that the presidential decision, which is under congressional investigation, "effects the right to gain information and to report with no other restrictions than those established by law."

The communique bears the signatures of representatives from the Latin American Institute for Alternative Legal Services [Instituto Latinoamericano de Servicios Legales Alternativos] (ILSA), the Peace and Justice Service (Serpaj) of Argentina, and the Caribbean Human Rights (CAR) organization of the Caribbean English-speaking countries.

The human rights organizations, all of them nongovernmental, met in Cartagena de Indias to review the policies currently implemented by the Latin American countries while their respective heads of state and heads of government were holding a "summit."

Newspaper directors, including those of LA REPUBLICA of Montevideo and EL PAIS of Spain, stressed that Lacalle's decree "is unprecedented in the Ibero-American community."

In this regard the newspaper directors stressed that Ibero-America "does not report a single country in which there is a private monopoly on open television and cable television."

Further on Summit Leader Speeches on 14 Jun

Salinas Addresses Summit

PA1706011894 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 15 Jun 94 p 9

[Text of speech by Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to the second working session of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit at the Barahona Hall of the Convention Center in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 14 June]

[Text] Mr. President of Bolivia,
Mr. President of Colombia and host,
Your Majesty,
Gentlemen heads of state and government,
Leaders of international organizations,
Ladies and gentlemen:

The solidarity of the people of Mexico is with the people of Colombia in the region of Cauca and Huila.

We are here today, on this generous Colombian soil, to continue to strengthen our relations, to progress in our commitments, and to project our presence toward Ibero-America, and through it to the rest of the world.

We have a large task before us. We share the challenge of achieving greater economic growth and more justice for our people in a more competitive world.

It has been said, and with reason, there are no sole solutions. This is why the diversity that characterizes us, due to the cultural background we share, demands joint efforts in areas that are indispensable to expand the domestic progress of each of our nations. This is where we find, amid other shared concerns, trade and investment, the two topics suggested for this meeting.

This fourth summit offers us the opportunity to seek agreements regarding these issues. I am convinced we must continue to promote our current regional agreements and draft new treaties that will better coordinate economic policies and expand the margins of exchange, investment, and the creation of jobs throughout Ibero-America. Many of these agreements encourage trade liberation and allow a more efficient participation of our countries in international markets. This is why we view with optimism the progress made within Latin America to form subregional trade zones.

Likewise, bilateral commercial agreements on the continent and in the Iberian countries are important. These agreements allow the whole region to grow closer.

Far from being centrifugal forces, these bilateral and multilateral agreements can become the foundation for a new concept of regional integration. Mexico has promoted commercial agreements to the north and south of the continent, in Europe, and the Pacific Rim. This is why we welcome the talks among our peoples, as we are doing today, to enrich ourselves with all the diversity that makes us different and to take advantage of all that we share.

The most encouraging thing today is the shared certainty that free and just exchange of capitals, assets, and services is helpful for us all. The signing of the agreement that ended the GATT Uruguay Round on 15 April opens new doors in international economic relations, because it better defines the legal framework that regulates international trade, and today, for the first time, includes the agricultural sector in commercial negotiations.

We must make more progress in certain aspects of multilateral trade, however. It is important that we give greater recognition to the efforts being made toward unilateral opening and change. It is necessary for us to expand the agreement to include services and labor and environmental issues.

It is essential to progress by making larger adjustments in monetary policies, technological exchange, and shared production in order to broaden trade openings and investments. Ibero-America must intensify its influence at multilateral forums, especially at the new World Trade Organization.

Messrs. chiefs of state and government, I also want to congratulate and commend President Cesar Gaviria for his new job as OAS secretary general. We feel his job is ours.

When we began holding Ibero-American summits in 1991, we stated their original purpose was to become a regional and political forum by acknowledging common historical roots and making future tangible proposals. As we have rightfully insisted, the Ibero-American community's pivotal point lies in the convergence of trade and social, cultural, and educational commitments.

Our nations' priority is to guarantee the welfare of the less fortunate. We cannot progress if we have inefficient and isolated economies, but we cannot move forward if we have global yet socially irresponsible economies. We must insist that economic recovery go hand in hand with a deliberate social reform and a pluralistic democratic progress.

It is necessary to strike a balance to ensure that economic growth, social welfare, democratic progress, and an efficient entry into the world economy will come about together. This has been one of Mexico's deliberate objectives: to embark simultaneously on an economic reform

to guarantee a great social reform and a pluralistic progress, as well as to diversify our relations to promote internal transformation efforts.

Other Ibero-American nations have progressed with their own projects that meet their peoples' needs. Their efforts strengthen our common goals.

Each effort at integration among our nations should not become a pretext to avert the flow of trade or create nontrading blocs. We can reach GATT-compatible agreements that will become the engines of economic activities, investments, job creation, and income distribution, which is what matters the most. With this in mind, we will augment our voice in the region, thereby linking Ibero-America together, crossing seas, sharing our concerns and reaffirming our world presence.

The possibility of reinforcing our world efforts lies in our resolve to work together. This is why, taking up the liberator's ideal, we can certainly say what he did: "I take this hope as a revelation." Thank you very much.

Guatemala's De Leon Seeks Support

PA1606153694 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1748 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, 14 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio today thanked the Ibero-American nations for their solidarity during the peace negotiations with the guerrillas and urged them to prevent the talks from becoming bogged down.

During the first session of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit of heads of state and government, De Leon Carpio said that "there is a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel" and that despite the difficulty of the negotiations the Guatemalan Government is determined to fulfill its moral commitment.

"On 29 March we signed a negotiations agreement-schedule, which underscores such points as the cease-fire in September and the demobilization of the guerrillas in December and which confirms that the signing of peace in 1994 is irreversible," De Leon Carpio said.

The Guatemalan president told the leaders of 21 countries, including the Dominican vice president, that he hopes to be remembered as the president whose administration established "total respect for the law and the conviction that that is the best attitude." "We have made considerable progress by signing the general agreement on human rights and immediate international verification," the president added.

The Guatemalan president pointed out that "with the end of the 30-year-old internal armed confrontation—the leading source of human rights violations—we will achieve total respect for life and individual guarantees." After urging Ibero-America to allow the opening of markets and the elimination of protectionist barriers, De Leon Carpio said: "We can set the example by trading among ourselves and later requesting similar conditions from the rest of the international community."

According to the Guatemalan president, Central America is attempting to reduce its huge social disparities, improve its peoples' standard of living through democratic consolidation and productive transformations, and increase its participation in worldwide trade.

Figueres Defends Feasible Development

PA1606133694 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1828 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias (Colombia), 14 Jun (EFE)—Costa Rican President Jose Maria Figueres defended the "feasible" development promoted by the new Central America during a time of peace and democracy, and he asked for access to international markets as "the best cooperation possible."

Regarding the Haitian crisis, he backed the OAS and UN efforts to reestablish democracy in that country. He also referred to international commerce and the current trend to liberalize it. He said that statements of principles are not enough if events continue to show that nations are denied the right to participate in this new commercial order because of protection measures being implemented.

He especially regretted the difficulties of gaining access to European and United States markets encountered by several Central American products. He asked Spain and Portugal to back initiatives to resolve those problems "in their position as the intermediaries between Europe and America."

In his speech at the Fourth Ibero-American Summit, which is being held in the Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, Figueres asserted that the democratic system had become stronger in Central America, "great improvements" had been made in human rights, and the economies had advanced to the opening of markets. "We must ensure those advances in the coming years," Figueres emphasized. He, however, expressed his concern for the social effects caused by policies to improve economic indicators. He insisted in benefits of the "Alliance for a Feasible Development" program, established by the Central American presidents on the basis of respect for their people's social needs and the conservation of their natural resources.

To attain a feasible development, the governments' efforts to further the economic sector have to be carried out in conjunction with their social investment, he asserted. Concurrently, we have to "strengthen our democratic institutions" because, he insisted, feasible development requires a solid pluralist base as growth "can only be parceled in a society that lives and produces in a democracy."

Figueres, who assumed the presidency on 8 May and who participated in the continental summit for the first time, asked for international understanding of the problems confronted by Central America after the wars and political instability suffered in the region during the past decades.

Costa Rica, he said, intends to give priority to its social objectives and to "change the market and the state in a creative manner."

The Costa Rican head of state believes the objective is to gain access to the upper levels of international competition, but not by offering advantages based on low wages or on the excessive exploitation of natural resources.

Nicaragua's Chamorro on Private Sector

PA1606152094 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1836 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, 14 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro today in Cartagena de Indias suggested making "economic engines" out of the business sectors in the Ibero-American countries gathered at this Caribbean port in Colombia.

"Contemporary economic integration underscores the new role assumed by the private sector, which is actively participating in the formulation of economic and social policies," Chamorro added. The Nicaraguan president spoke at the first session of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit in Cartagena de Indias, where the heads of state and government of 20 countries have gathered for two days to examine trade mechanisms and regional development.

Private enterprise "should become the engine and strength of our economies," Chamorro reiterated. The Nicaraguan president, who attended the past three Ibero-American summits held since the inception of the regional forum in 1991 in Guadalajara, Mexico, said her administration has proven its integrationist convictions.

The many summits organized by the Central American countries have generated a dynamic "that will allow us to resolve the problems that for decades have fostered violence in our region," Chamorro said. The Nicaraguan president pointed out that "Nicaragua has undergone a triple transition process that has allowed it to go from war to peace, from a centralized economy to a social market economy, and from a clearly totalitarian regime to a flourishing democracy."

"We have changed ration cards for the exercise of free trade through the private sector," added Chamorro, after asserting that in this development process "we have buried the rifles." The Nicaraguan president admitted that there are inequalities in the countries of the region and urged her Ibero-American colleagues to strengthen their ties of solidarity and mutual support.

Honduras' Reina Proposes Economic Community

PA1606175394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1904 GMT 14 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, 14 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Honduran President Carlos Roberto Reina proposed here today to create authoritative organizations with economic integration decision-making power. He invited other countries to stimulate the creation of an Ibero-American Economic Community. Speaking during the first session of the Fourth Summit of Ibero-American Heads of State and Government, which opened on Tuesday in this Colombian port, Reina extended an invitation to endorse "the gradual and progressive creation of an Ibero-American Economic Community."

"The leading role played by commercial enterprises in the new interdependence schemes should not lead us to think that this role ends with the creation of free trade or tariff-free zones," he said. Reina pointed out that the Central American countries are willing to negotiate commercial agreements jointly with third countries and establish a shared economic policy "based on sustainable development."

According to the Honduran president, the proposed alliance between Central America and the United States for sustainable development is "the pioneering creative framework" for a regional economic integration process. He expressed his desire that the multilateral agreement, which was reached during the so-called Summit of the Americas, to which the United States invited all of the regional countries with the exceptions of Cuba and Haiti and which is scheduled to be held in Miami in December, be signed.

Reina, who is participating in an Ibero-American summit for the first time, also asked for the recognition of developmental differences among countries that participate in economic convergence processes. Regional interdependence "can take place only within the context of equality in which all costs and profits can be shared equitably ," Reina said. According to Reina, development imbalances are compatible with integration processes, "provided differences in the countries' competitiveness are recognized and taken into consideration at the time of the negotiations."

Tomorrow, the 22 heads of state and government, in addition to Dominican Vice President Carlos Morales Troncoso, will close the Ibero-American Summit in this Colombian Caribbean port located 1,200 km away from Santa Fe de Bogota.

Justice Ministers View Money Laundering

PA1706021794 Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Jun 94 p 8A

[Article by special envoy John Gutierrez]

[Text] The Ibero-American countries' battle against money laundering and drug trafficking capitals is targeting new paths. On 9 June, Colombia stressed the Ibero-American need to control bank accounts and investigate shady transactions and the recording of money transfers that exceed reasonable ceilings. Colombian experts, who proposed a bill to curtail this scourge, believe that the fight against money laundering must extend to gambling houses and casinos. The objective is to identify players and participants and to keep a numbered record of the operations.

The ministers and representatives of 20 countries, counseled by Spanish experts who have implemented several of the measures that are currently being multilaterally discussed, on 9 June analyzed the terms of a joint declaration, especially those regarding financial system controls.

EL TIEMPO posed some questions to the judicial authorities of a group of countries that are attending the ministers summit, which will end on 10 June, and is publishing their opinions and proposals on fighting money laundering. In principle, the prospects of multilateral money laundering agreements reportedly will be fully supported by each nation's legislature.

Mexican Deputy Prosecutor General Ricardo Franco

Mexico is currently studying a strategy aimed at locating moneys illegally entered or transferred. The objective is to zero in on the moneys that come from drug trafficking through the cooperation of banks and the operations that authorities performed in the bank accounts themselves.

Those who commit illegal enrichment will be prosecuted and sentenced, on average, to 18 years in prison. The solution to this problem lies in reinforcing investigations and broadening cooperation among the nations to standardize procedures and prosecute criminals.

Mexico is acting with the law on its side to conduct a head-on fight against drug trafficking and will not hesitate to punish those who are involved in any activity related to this vice.

Chilean Justice Minister Maria Soledad Alvear

Chile is about to approve a bill to drastically penalize illicit drug trafficking activities, such as money laundering. It is even necessary to study the possibility of lifting bank secrecy laws, rendering harsh sentences, and expediting legal procedures in those cases where there irregular money transactions are detected.

In our country, we have reached a consensus on moving forward with drug legislation, although there are certain sectors that oppose bank secrecy violations.

Argentine Justice Minister Jorge Luis Maiorano

Argentina is equipped with the necessary juridical instruments to combat money laundering through actions coordinated with the banking system in order to detect, for instance, irregular bank account transfers by businesses or individuals.

In addition, all government bodies have the political resolve to avoid the proliferation of this affliction. A cooperation effort should be implemented in Ibero-America. There is also modern legislation on the subject, legislation that carries prison terms of up to eight years minimum, forbids prison releases, and empowers judges and the Justice Ministry to intervene as irregular transactions are detected and confirmed.

Bolivian Justice Minister Rene Blatman

In Bolivia, we are holding a number of seminars with banks and are drafting a bill to fight money laundering. Our belief is that it must be a joint effort among the international community. Isolated efforts are destined to fail.

Two viable mechanisms, which should be adopted by the region, to curtail this illegal activity are the lifting of bank secrecy laws on suspicious accounts and the creation of formulas to justify money sources.

Spanish Justice Minister Teresa Fernandez

Spain has adopted criminal and administrative measures to prevent capital flight and money laundering, such as setting ceilings on cash payments, exerting larger loan controls, and storing operations records for up to five years. In addition, the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office was created and is authorized to request information from banks.

Money laundering is one of the practices that has provided oxygen tanks to drug traffickers. This is why I believe Ibero-America must adopt measures of this nature to halt money laundering.

Cuban Justice Minister Carlos Amat Florez

We have not faced the situation generated by drug traffickers' investments, because we had a closed economy in Cuba. Since we opened our economy, we have been receiving foreign aid through agreements with the Cuban Government. However, we have been careful and are thoroughly investigating and scrutinizing the sources of capital.

Cuba

Castro: Ibero-American Summit 'Positive'

PA1606151994 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1303 GMT 16 Jun 94

[From the "Morning Information Review" newscast]

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro said in the Colombian city of Cartagena de Indias, where he attended the Fourth Ibero-American Summit, that Cuba has its own means of popular participation and there is no exclusive model of democracy.

In statements to the U.S. television network CNN, the top Cuban leader said that popular participation on the island is more practical than in the rest of Latin America.

Castro said Latin America's land and wealth distribution systems are among the worst in the world and that Cuba, meanwhile, has made the greatest social progress in the hemisphere's history.

As for the Ibero-American summits, Castro underscored the positive mark they have left in addition to fostering friendship among the nations of the region.

Regarding the U.S. blockade against the island, Castro explained that he had to attend the summit to express his concern about the lack of opposition to that unfair measure aimed at making the Cuban people give in to hunger. He also described as complex the issue of Cuba's possible reinstatement to the OAS, adding that it is being considered.

Castro CNN Interview on Summit, OAS

FL1606170694 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Interview with President Fidel Castro by unidentified CNN reporter in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 15 June—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What do you expect from this summit?

[Castro] Every summit has had a positive effect, has fostered a closeness and friendship among the peoples of Latin America. Diverse initiatives have sprung from the summits. This summit is already an institution and constitutes a Latin American force. This is something new which did not exist before. Previously, the Latin American peoples meet only when summoned by the United States. This is the fourth time we have met by our own initiative.

[Reporter] Do you expect this summit to be akin to a platform to allow Cuba to rejoin the OAS?

[Castro] I do not hope for that much. This is a complex problem. Diverse opinions have been expressed. We have to wait to see the final result in favor of Cuba's reincorporation in the OAS. That does not necessarily guarantee, however, that the good wishes of many Latin American peoples can be effected.

[Reporter] What is your answer to the call by all the Latin American leaders advocating a political and democratic opening in Cuba?

[Castro] No, not all. Some very respectfully expressed their views. I appreciate their concern for Cuba but I in turn replied, you heard it, that I could not believe that not a single word had been said against such an unfair and inhuman blockade which is trying to make our people surrender out of hunger and turn our country into a blood bath, and which attempts to dismiss the heroic resistance which Cuba and the Cuban people have put up in defense of dignity and sovereignty of the peoples of Latin America for more than 35 years. Our views are ignored.

Our country has been institutionalized and we have our views on how the country ought to be organized, how to keep the country united. We have our Constitution and follow it. I believe our practices and the participation of our people are truly much more democratic than that of others systems. There is more than one model of democracy. I also explained how distraught we were by the fact that it has not been acknowledged that Cuba has attained the greatest social progress in the history of this hemisphere; and that this hemisphere has the worst distribution of wealth and land, that millions of people die every year, people who could be saved. We have done so in Cuba. Only in Cuba, the Revolution's social efforts have not only educated the entire population but also saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. [Words indistinct] the others have not done this.

[Reporter] As you explained, Cuba has experienced great social development. Currently, great economic development is taking place.

[Castro] No, great economic development is not taking place right now. We are under a double blockade. We have endured the U.S. blockade for over 30 years and we have had to abide the outcome of the collapse of the socialist bloc, with which we had the bulk of our trade, and the disappearance of the Soviet Union.

[Reporter] Is Cuba attracting foreign investment?

[Castro] It is, not in the proportion we would like, but increasingly so.

[Reporter] Could we expect to see an opening in Cuba like in the PRC where a market economy coexists with a socialist government?

[Castro] We have studied the Chinese and Vietnamese experiences and everything useful and applicable to Cuba that we can take from that experience will be undoubtedly implemented. We cannot mechanically copy everything they have done because their situation is different. For example, in the PRC, 80 percent of the population lives in rural areas where in Cuba, 80 percent of the population lives in urban areas. We cannot do in

rural areas some of the things they do. We have to do things differently. We are in close contact with the PRC and Vietnam and have studied them seriously in addition to our own contributions. We have also conducted a significant economic opening and are aware that we have to solve problems under very difficult conditions. It was easier to resist the blockade when the USSR existed and we had guaranteed trade and markets, fair prices for our products, and had credit and technology which today we do not have. Nowadays, we have to accomplish this on our own and under enormous U.S. pressures.

[Reporter] You have made a unique statement by wearing a guayabera for the first time in over 35 years. Does this imply a change?

[Castro] Well, rather than a change it is matter of (?deference) and respect, first of all, to the local climate and second, to the request of the organizers. They sent word to please come in guayaberas or shirts. I did not have any guayaberas or shirts, our suits. I had to rush. Someone lent me a guayabera for measurements, then one was made for me at full speed. I had no idea how it was going to fit. On Monday, the very day I left, guayaberas were being made for me. Thus, I complied with all the requirements of the climate and the host and I am very comfortable.

[Reporter] Will there be Fidel Castro in Cuba for a long time?

[Castro] Who can tell if there will be Fidel Castro in Cuba for a long time? It all depends on my health and, above all, my capacity to contribute to solve the national problems.

There is no need for Fidel Castro in Cuba for a long time. We have many outstanding comrades able to do the job. We have been developing younger and well prepared cadres. I am not indispensable. I do not believe myself indispensable, nor does it worry me how much longer I may have, how long I am going to last, or for how long will they demand that I fulfill certain duties which, by the way, are not easy.

[Reporter] Do you not think it is time for the Cuban people to have other political options?

[Castro] The Cuban people participated in elections not long ago.

[Reporter] But it is a one party system.

[Castro] Yes, but the party does not nominate the candidates. The candidates are nominated directly by the people. In other words, we do not have one but a thousand, every citizen has the option to make a nomination. The neighbors in the district meet and nominate candidates.

[Reporter] But these are candidates from the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC]?

[Castro] Well, it is an honor. There are many who are not members of the PCC, however. Yet, in Cuba, the candidates are nominated by the people, not the PCC. The PCC does not participate in the nomination of candidates, the mass organizations do. The percentage of the population that votes is much higher than in the United States, a higher percentage than in any Latin American country. That is a fact.

[Reporter] Regarding the embargo: Canada has said that it supports the lifting of the embargo against Cuba. Do you believe this is a good beginning to which the U.S. will be receptive?

[Castro] Canada has always followed independent and outstanding policies regarding ties with Cuba, a policy of respect for our national sovereignty. This policy, like Mexico's, has been upheld for over 30 years through various administrations, conservative, liberal, and progressive.

Castro on Embassy Occupations, U.S. Relations

PA1706000394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2039 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Cuban President Fidel Castro said here today that people who enter embassies in Cuba violently lose their right to obtain a visa to leave the country. "Anyone who wants to leave Cuba can obtain a departure visa but anyone who enters an embassy violently loses that right," Castro said in a statement for the Colombian station Radio Cadena Nacional (RCN).

Castro said Cubans who are of age can request visas to leave the country, but they cannot always obtain visas from the corresponding embassies and therefore decide to occupy the installations.

On Wednesday, nine persons forcefully entered the Chilean Consulate in Havana while 20 others are currently at the German Embassy and 118 at the Belgian ambassador's residence demanding authorization to leave the island. Castro said the Cuban government has the obligation of protecting the embassies. He added, however, that force should not be used.

Yesterday, Ricardo Alarcon, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government, noted the need to "prevent in a civilized manner" the violation and vulnerability of diplomatic missions. He stressed that Cuban authorities will refrain from dislodging the several civilians who occupied the embassies by force, adding that no reprisals will be taken against them if they change their attitude. "It is necessary to prevent in a civilized manner" the forceful occupation of embassies "if we do not want the law of the jungle to prevail or even prevent the disappearance of diplomatic service," Alarcon stressed.

He said that so far the countries affected by those incidents have cooperated with Cuban authorities in

trying to persuade the occupants to voluntarily and peacefully leave the installations. Alarcon, a former foreign minister, said the occupation of embassies is the result of U.S. immigration policy, which denies visas to Cubans who want to emigrate to that country.

In his statement to RCN—one of the most important radio networks in Colombia—Castro also referred to Cuba's relations with the United States, denying the possibility for "direct contact" at this time. He stressed that U.S. President William Clinton is very interested in obtaining his reelection and therefore power groups, which he did not identify, are pressuring him to maintain the sanctions against Cuba.

Castro said he is pleased with the election of Colombian President Cesar Gaviria as OAS secretary general, but ruled out the possibility that he can promote Cuba's return to the regional organization in the very near future. For Cuba, its return to the OAS is not a priority; what we view as a priority is the end of the economic blockade the United States has maintained against the island for more than 30 years, Castro stressed. Castro described the blockade as "inhuman and criminal." He added that it is not justified because the Cold War is over and said it has hurt Cuba more due to changes in its trade activities, 80 percent of which were carried out with the socialist bloc.

Consulted about the situation in Colombia—a country facing guerrilla groups comprised of several million armed men—Castro denied his country interferes in the internal affairs of other countries. He recognized that for some time, Cuba actively supported revolutionary movements in Latin America because they supported the [Cuban] policy toward the United States, but he explained that that situation has changed. He said his country's relations with Latin America are based on mutual respect and nonintervention in the internal affairs of each nation.

Castro refused to comment on the possible results of Sunday's presidential elections in Colombia. He only said he hopes the elected president will continue working to further improve the electoral process.

Castro recognized that he does not have the same energy as when he was 20 or 30 years old. He added that he will retire when the right time comes, after overcoming the current difficult moments because he does not want to look like a deserter. He said he would like to have "a small piece" of land in Cuba to rest and dedicate his time to reading. He noted, however, that he still works 15, 16, or 17 hours daily.

Cuba To Host Ninth Ibero-American Summit

FL1606132694 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 94

[From the "First Thing" program]

[Text] On 15 June, Cuba was officially appointed the seat of the Ninth Ibero-American Heads of State Summit in 1999 according to the closing document of the Fourth Ibero-American Summit just held in Cartagena de Indias. The next summits will be held in Argentina in 1995, Chile in 1996, Venezuela in 1997, Portugal in 1998, Panama in the year 2,000, and Peru in the year 2,001.

Vice Foreign Minister Jorge Bolanos, who participated in the meeting of experts which analyzed the closing document, announced Cuba's formal request during a news conference on Saturday.

Cartagena Summit Document: 'Step Forward'

FL1606174494 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 16 Jun 94

["Our Opinion" commentary by Orlando Contreras for the "Doing Radio" newscast]

[Text] The Fourth Ibero-American Summit has just concluded in Cartagena de Indias, a city that is part of the cultural and historical patrimony of the world. The final document is 19 pages long and, obviously, we have not had access to it. Judging from substantive elements contained in the final document, we consider that the balance of this fourth summit is positive. It is not all that we expected and—this is a personal opinion—it is not what Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Iberian world could expect under the circumstances that currently prevail in the world; but it is evidently a step forward in the efforts for integration and joint efforts among countries of Iberian origin.

I believe, and it is quite obvious, that the decision adopted by the heads of state and government who participated in the summit concerning the blockade against Cuba is a positive step forward when compared with previous summits. Regarding this, I would like to comment on what was approved yesterday at Cartagena de Indias. The presidents and heads of state decided to support the elimination, according to international law principles and the UN resolution, of economic and commercial measures which affect free development of international commerce and impair living conditions in Ibero-American nations.

Obviously, the paragraph does not textually mention the United States as the factor, the agent who has imposed a blockade which has lasted for 32 years against our country. Neither does it mention Cuba as the victim of this criminal and unfair blockade, as Fidel termed it at the fourth summit. If we analyze previous agreements however, we will see that in Salvador de Bahia they took note, they only took note of the decisions adopted in other international forums. To be more precise, I would rather read what was agreed upon at the third summit; and you will be able to compare the text of the agreement adopted at the previous summit in Salvador de Bahia and the one adopted in Cartagena de Indias.

Paragraph 68 of the resolution adopted at Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, states: We take note of recent resolutions adopted at international forums on the need to eliminate the unilateral implementation, by any state and for political purposes, of economic and commercial measures against any other state. The paragraph begins with a note-taking action rather than an opinion, censure, or explicit support for an accord's elimination. This time, the heads of state and government who met in Cartagena de Indias endorsed the elimination, based on international law principles, of accords which harm or are detrimental for Ibero-American nations. This is a clear allusion to the criminal and unfair blockade imposed by the United States against our country.

There are other substantive elements. For example, in a world marked by neoliberalism, the document states the decision to bolster cooperation and mutual aid in the Ibero-American community, and a special emphasis was made on the need to look after the poorest sectors of the Latin American population. This decision in a world marked by neoliberalism, I repeat, represents an assumption that this neoliberalism is incapable of providing real solutions to the critical problems which afflict the Latin American world, the world of Iberian origin.

Moreover, to conclude, I would like to state that within this effort for unity, cooperation, and collaboration, it is positive that Latin America supported President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's candidacy to the World Trade Organization. As you well know, this organization replaces the GATT. Only the Iberian countries in Europe, meaning Spain and Portugal, did not support the resolution because they had already pledged to support Italy's Renato Ruggiero. In other words, a differentiation was made between 19 Latin American countries and the European countries.

In essence, this represents a step forward, a positive step. It is not what we expected but Ibero-American consultation has been consolidated. Actually, it has been institutionalized, a meeting of the coordination group will be held in Santa Fe de Bogota. In fact, a timetable has been announced for the agreement adopted in Madrid: Argentina next year; Chile in 1995, El Salvador in 1997, Portugal in 1998, Cuba in 1999, Panama in 2000, and Peru in 2001. I know of no precedent in which countries that will host the summit have been later rejected.

U.S. Freezes Organization's Bank Accounts

PA1606155694 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1300 GMT 16 Jun 94

[From the "Morning Information Review" newscast]

[Text] The U.S. Government has frozen bank accounts totaling $43,000 owned by the Campaign for the Freedom to Travel, which plans to send 200 of its members to Cuba. The organization's director Medea Benjamin said that despite the measure the trip will be made to Cuba.

Russia, Cuba Create Research Organization

FL1606202994 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Jun 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[Text] Today, Russia and Cuba signed the statutes for the Ros-Cuba International Organization, created to sponsor cooperation in the production, financial, and scientific and technical research sectors. Ros-Cuba will be comprised of state enterprises, organizations, and businessmen from the two nations. Its functions will include promoting services to third countries.

(Lev Mogilevskiy) and Pablo Martin, president and vice president of Ros-Cuba, signed the document establishing the legal groundwork for its operations and registration before the Russian authorities, where the main offices will be located.

The ceremony included the participation of Leonel Soto, vice president of the Council of Ministers in Cuba, who is currently conducting a work tour through former Soviet nations.

Statutes Signed for Joint Association

FL1606232894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1956 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] With the objective of promoting cooperation in the spheres of production, finance, and scientific-technical research, representatives of Cuba and Russia signed the statutes of the Ros-Cuba international association.

(Lev Mogilevskiy) and Pablo Martin, president and vice president of the association respectively, signed the document that establishes the necessary legal bases for its operation and for registration with authorities of Russia, where its main offices will be located.

Lionel Soto, vice president of the Council of Ministers, attended the ceremony, which took place in the Cuban Embassy in Moscow. Ros-Cuba will comprise enterprises, state organizations, and businessmen from the two countries. Providing services to third countries will be among the association's functions.

U.S. 'Double Standard' on Immigration Noted

PA1606234294 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon from the "Evening Information Review"]

[Text] In Cartagena de Indias, Cuban President Fidel Castro has said the United States should change its immigration policy regarding Latin America and the Caribbean. Addressing the plenum at the Fourth Ibero-American Summit, the Cuban president broached a sensitive point when he called on the United States to enact a law that would automatically legalize the status

of Latin American and Caribbean peoples who have entered the northern country, as it is doing with Cuban citizens today.

The double standard in the U.S. policy regarding immigrants of the hemisphere can be seen most notably in the last three and a half decades, as Washington has given special treatment to Cubans who reach that country while it has repressed the citizens of other nationalities.

As a result of the Cuban Readjustment Act, enacted in the United States in 1966, any Cuban, regardless of motive or means of transportation, may be granted political refugee status merely by reaching U.S. territory and remaining there for a year. The laws favoring Cuban immigration and the slowness in granting permanent residence through legal means have encouraged illegal departures from Cuban territory. The exceptional, privileged treatment the United States grants to Cuban immigration is contingent upon a political premise that is not given to citizens of other regional countries.

There are instances in which fragile boats full of Cubans and Haitians have reached the coast of the Florida peninsula: Cubans searching for better economic opportunities and Haitians escaping military repression. The U.S. authorities returned the Haitians, but the Cubans received every possible assistance and were quickly able to legalize their status and subsequently turned over to their relatives.

More than 7 million immigrants entered the United States between 1981 to 1990, according to official figures, but Cuba ranks 16th among the countries that contribute the most immigrants. There is no other reason, other than political, to treat Cubans with privilege to the detriment of the remaining Latin American and Caribbean immigrants, especially Mexicans.

No wonder the Cuban president just stated the following in Cartagena de Indias: At a time when the Berlin Wall no longer exists, the wall being built at the Mexican-U.S. border should be torn down.

Country Intends To Carry Out Nuclear Plans

PA1606164994 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1400 GMT 14 Jun 94

[By Victorio M. Copa]

[Text] Havana, 14 Jun (DPA)—Cuba is determined to continue with its nuclear plans even though the construction of its most important project, the Juragua Electronuclear Plant, temporarily suspended in 1992, has yet to resume. In response to a question asked by a DPA reporter, an Executive Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs (SEAN) source said the country's plan was drafted with multifaceted goals.

In 1983, Cuba began building two 440-megawatt nuclear energy reactors in the area of Cienfuegos, on the south-central coast of the island approximately 300 km east of Havana. On 5 September 1992, when President Fidel Castro announced the halt of "the construction of the century," one of the reactors was 90 percent completed and scheduled to begin operating in late 1995 or early 1996, while the other one was only 20 or 30 percent completed.

The project, which is estimated to have involved an investment of $1.1 billion, would have been a big relief for Cuban authorities, who lack hard money to buy the necessary oil for the operational use of their thermoelectric plants.

For his part, Dr. Daniel Cordoniu, executive deputy secretary of the SEAN, said that, together with nuclear energy (production of electricity stemming from the fusion of the atom) [passage as received], another method being developed is the use of radioisotopes and radiation in diverse fields. In addition to being used in biotechnology, the pharmaceutical industry, and health, which are priority areas in the country, these nuclear techniques are being applied both in the food program and in open support of diverse industries, the researcher said recently on Cubavision's "Open Agenda" program. In that sense, he also mentioned other areas, such as nickel-bearing, sugar, and oil industries, without ruling out the use of nuclear techniques in environmental activities related to tourism.

Engineer Gilberto Salazar, who is also executive vice secretary of the SEAN, praised the production of radiopharmaceuticals (components that are introduced into the body for diagnostic and therapeutical purposes), which have permitted substituting imports in 1993. He explained that this progress was achieved by the Center of Applied Studies to Nuclear Development (CEADEN), which is also taking part in preparing certain components.

That technique is virtually irreplaceable in the studies of absorption, distribution, metabolism, and the excretion of medicine (pharmacodynamics), which is essential for registering new medicines, Salazar stated. After noting that the preservation of the Juragua plant has been achieved satisfactorily with the Basic Industries Ministry as investor, Codorniu confirmed that alternatives are being sought to complete the project. Cuba and Russia are willing to contribute foreign capital to put the Juragua plant in operation, which will net the island a savings of over 800,000 tons of oil annually.

Diplomatic sources in Havana and Moscow agreed that there is great interest in this regard and that French authorities apparently are considering possibly financing the project jointly with Russia. The weekly GRANMA INTERNACIONAL, which is edited in Spanish, English, and French, recently revealed that the Russian Government granted the island a $30 million loan to maintain the project. The necessary funding to obtain an automation system for the plant's only reactor, however, is pending.

Oil Drilling Enterprise Exceeding Goals

FL1606152694 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Since January, the Central Region Oil Drilling and Extraction enterprise has delivered more than 385,000 tons of oil, thus surpassing its projected goals by 3 percent. The enterprise director, Engineer Marcos Aguilera, told national reporters that the workers' efforts were paired with positive results from foreign companies in charge of exploiting several wells and the regular arrival of tankers.

Engineer Aguilera added that the current situation allows us to believe that this overage can be maintained or surpasssed by the end of the first semester, at which time they expect to have extracted 410,870 tons.

Agriculture Minister Inaugurates Rice Harvest in Granma

FL1606133294 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Report by Diosdado Maso for the "National Radio News"—figures as heard]

[Text] The Fernando Echenique Rice Enterprise in Granma must produce almost 50 percent of the country's rice consumption this year, meaning 100,000 tons. The country spent $17 million this year in fertilizers, pesticides, fuel, lubricants, and tires. All the material is already at the Cuban rice enterprises' warehouses.

Agriculture Minister Alfredo Jordan said the effort exerted in the nation's economic sector must be complemented with more technological discipline, efficiency, and quality in the harvest's organization. The minister also emphasized:

[Begin Jordan recording] We must (?optimize) the efficiency in the country's rice production again because it is clear we cannot produce with 5,100 caballerias the same volume we produced with 10,000 caballerias. We can, however, certainly achieve the highest efficiency in history with 5,100 caballerias; and I believe this dignifier the rice producers. We must work in that direction. [end recording]

Cuba consumes 500,000 tons of rice in a year. To get the amount we do not produce—400,000 tons—the economy has alloted $110 million to purchase it abroad. The rice harvest has officially started in Granma Province.

Barbados

BLP Officials on Elections, No-Confidence Vote

FL1606154994 Castries HTS Caribvision Television in English 1945 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] The Barbados Labor Party [BLP] has refuted charges that it is not ready for general elections. BLP public relations person Tony Alton was responding to remarks by the leader of the National Democratic Party, Dr. Richie Haynes, that the BLP is not in a position to contest an upcoming election. Mr. Alton said the leadership issue in the party has already been settled, with Owen Arthur at the head. He also disclosed that the BLP has candidates for all the constituencies and some, he says, have already been elected.

[Begin Alton recording] Currently lifetime members [words indistinct], each of them has indicated that they will, if selected, run on behalf of the BLP again. There are several of us that have been nominated and endorsed by the national council to represent the party at the next election. These would be (Liam Artley), Duncan Carter, Blaine Clark, (Romel Marshall), and myself. There are another six nominations that are on schedule for the end, rather, by the end of July. [end recording]

Meanwhile BLP MP Delisle Bradshaw is still not sure when he is returning home. Bradshaw missed last week's historic no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford as he had to obtain medical treatment in Antigua. Speaking with (Novodin Busta) from Antigua, Bradshaw indicated that he was still in a lot of pain and was awaiting word from his physician on when he could return to Barbados.

[Begin Bradshaw recording] I am still seeing my doctor. I am hoping to be back, [pauses] will be returning to see my doctor again on Friday. I hope that I will be fit to travel to return home. [end recording]

Mr. Bradshaw also reiterated that he had intended to be in Barbados for last week's vote. He said he left the 14th Caribbean General Insurance Conference overseas ahead of its conclusions when he heard that the debate on the motion was pending. The MP noted that he is ready to defend his name and respond to the rumors about why he missed the no-confidence motion upon his return to Barbados. He noted that he would be speaking to his party leader, constituents, and the Barbadian public on this very contentious issue.

[Begin Bradshaw recording] I was in Belize some time last week. Then last week, week before when I was called and told to return home for the no-confidence motion, and I will return to Barbados. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Dominican Republic

Balaguer Criticizes U.S. Request on Elections

PA1606204094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1854 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Santo Domingo, 16 Jun (EFE)—Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer today criticized a request issued by the U.S. State Department to hold elections in those areas of the country in which irregularities were detected during the 19 May voting process.

Although Balaguer acknowledged the existence of anomalies during the elections, he stressed that it will be up to the Central Electoral Board (JCE) to decide the issue. He stated that no authority, whether domestic or foreign, is entitled to interfere with the JCE's announcement of election results, as the U.S. State Department did this past Wednesday.

Balaguer's statements drew an immediate response from the U.S. Embassy in Santo Domingo, which reiterated the U.S. commitment to democracy in America.

Despite his criticism of the request, Balaguer agreed to stage complementary elections in those communities in which voters were excluded from voting lists. The United States praised Balaguer's decision to repeat the elections, leaving the final decision to the JCE, adding that "such a decision will pave the way toward resolving the controversial results."

Balaguer explained he supports some of the recommendations made by the United States, but he added that he opposes any domestic or foreign interference in the JCE's decisions. He also reiterated that the JCE is the organization that will decide which measures will be adopted to resolve the issue.

On Wednesday, State Department spokesman Michael McCurry released a document sent to the Dominican Government which called for an investigation and clarification into charges of irregularities reported by international observers. The document notes: "The United States strongly urges the release of the actual documents that were used at the voting tables on Election Day."

The balloting is being protested by the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD), which contends that at least 200,000 voters were excluded, mainly supporters of this party's presidential candidate Jose Francisco Pena Gomez.

Balaguer stated that the past elections were the cleanest and most transparent ever staged in the Dominican Republic, as well as in Latin America. Nevertheless, he acknowledged that following the elections, the Dominican economy has been paralyzed by the JCE's delay in announcing the winner, although he pointed out that the economy will recover once the election process has concluded.

Balaguer also blamed the opposition for the electoral tribunal's delay in announcing the winner because the number of challenges that have been filed, particularly by the PRD, are preventing the JCE from proclaiming a winner without first concluding investigations into the charges.

Balaguer Opposes Military Intervention in Haiti

PA1606201494 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1924 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Santo Domingo, 16 Jun (EFE)—Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer today expressed his opposition to a military intervention in Haiti to oust the military government that overthrew Jean-Bertrand Aristide in September 1991. Nevertheless, he warned that the Dominican Government is prepared to protect the joint border.

Balaguer said he is confident that due to the Latin American government's rejection of an invasion, the international community will not reach the extreme of invading Haiti.

He said dialogue between the two sides in conflict in Haiti could contribute to the return of democracy in that country and he explained that Dominican authorities are ready to defend and protect the 386-km border shared with Haiti on the island of Hispaniola, in case of a military invasion.

Balaguer has repeatedly opposed the embargo imposed on Haiti by the international community. Nevertheless, since the end of May there has been strict compliance with the sanctions, to the point of preventing Haitians from obtaining food and medicine in the Dominican Republic. The Dominican president has ordered approximately 15,000 soldiers to guard the border with Haiti to prevent the violation of the international embargo against that country. Border surveillance intensified after Balaguer held several meetings with UN and U.S. officials in Santo Domingo. The heavy border surveillance, which prevents Haitians and Dominicans from trading on the border, has caused at least three Haitian deaths in the past 15 days during attacks on Dominican soldiers who prevent Haitians from crossing the border.

Haiti

Jonassaint Denounces International Community

FL1606220994 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Provisional President Emile Jonassaint has again denounced the international community's misunderstanding of Haiti. In a message to foreign journalists living in Haiti, Jonassaint said he hopes to provide, through these colleagues of the press, all the information that defines the Haitian reality, without distortion.

The international community wants to impose a policy and politicians that the Haitian people have rejected. In this message, Jonassaint [word indistinct] to open the door, sees that the international community wants to open the door to civil war in Haiti just so it can be right.

The message asks: Do they want to offer to individuals living abroad the opportunity and satisfaction of having their countries [as heard] occupied by foreign powers? Do they want to offer them the satisfaction of destabilizing their country [as heard] and realizing an explosion of Haitian civilian society? Those who represent them [not further identified] even dared call the people to civil disobedience; therefore, anarchy; trying, ipso facto, to destroy, the authority and very government of Haiti.

They want to impose on us an adventure of [words indistinct], which is not suitable either to our culture or our desiderate, much less our history. These Haitians who are disparaged, reviled, and excluded from the international community, are quietly moving toward elections, the only honorable way out of the abominable crisis we are experiencing at this time.

Jonassaint speaks of the main priorities defined by his government. Those priorities have already formed the subject of an official document. The text will soon be communicated to the media, he announced.

Sees Need for Elections; Military Parades Held

PA1606174894 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1614 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 16 Jun (EFE)—Emile Jonassaint, provisional president of Haiti, today said that presidential and legislative elections would provide the only way out of the crisis that has existed in the country since September 1991, when constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was deposed.

In a message released to foreign reporters in Haiti, Jonassaint, who was placed in his post by the military in May, added that the international community is seeking to launch "an adventure in Haiti similar to the one launched by Pol Pot in Cambodia."

In this way, the Haitian leader was referring to the embargo decreed by the United Nations, which is designed to force the Haitian military to leave power and fulfill the agreements signed with Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was overthrown by a group of military leaders headed by General Raoul Cedras, chief of the Armed Forces. In his message to foreign reporters, the de facto president did not mention Aristide.

On Wednesday, the Haitian Army staged parades in Port-au-Prince and in the provinces in support of Gen. Cedras. The parades were staged at a time when, according to sources close to the Haitian military, differences are beginning to emerge within the Army command.

On Tuesday, differences were noted following statements by Evans Francois, who requested Gen. Cedras' resignation. Evans Francois is the brother and adviser of Police Chief Joseph Michel Francois. Evans Francois accused Cedras of being responsible for the crisis that exists in Haiti and of heading a "triumvirate" under the guise of Emile Jonassaint, a judge supported by the military to hold the post of chief of state and government.

Although the Haitian police chief has denied any connection to his brother's remarks, telling the public and the Army that he does not support his brother's views, sources close to the military told EFE: "There are a number of large differences." The sources added: "There is a group demanding a way out, arguing that the status quo cannot continue much longer and demanding an honorable way out for the Army."

Parades in 3 Cities Support Cedras

FL1606214194 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] It should be noted that on 15 June, Washington asserted that a breach was observed within the Haitian military institution which, according to the U.S. State Department, is a consequence of the new sanctions against Haiti. In Port-au-Prince, Cap-Haitian, and Jeremie, the opposite is being demonstrated, with military parades and marches expressing support for General Cedras and against a possible intervention in Haiti.

On 15 June, Haitian Army battalions marched in Port-au-Prince and in other cities, including Jeremie and Cap-Haitian, with fanfare and flags. The military are reportedly parading as a show of support for the Army commander in chief. Civilians accompanying the Army took the opportunity to chant anti-Aristide slogans on 15 June in Port-au-Prince.

In Cap-Haitian, the military also marched through the city's streets before placing a spray of flowers at the foot of the statue honoring the heroes of Haitian independence. Our correspondent, Joseph Claude Larouse, in Cap-Haitian filed a report:

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] In Cap-Haitian, several hundred military soldiers from the Haitian Armed Forces paraded this morning through the streets of the city. They marched to Vertieres, where they placed a spray of flowers at the monument to the heroes of the War of Independence. The military advised that this gesture was to ask the heroes for the strength and courage to resist to the end the difficult situation the country is facing, especially the threat of intervention. Colonel Josaphat stated, however, that it was just the usual parade. This parade nonetheless was held after U.S. officials made statements such as—and I quote: We do not exclude any possibilities, including armed military intervention, to resolve the crisis in Haiti. Unquote.

Several grassroots organizations condemned those statements, including the National Cooperative Action Movement and the Committee for Patriotic Action and Citizens' Defense, rejecting all plans for intervention in Haiti and asking that the sanctions against the country be immediately lifted.

On the other hand, groups supporting President Aristide ask that Gen. Raoul Cedras and Colonel Michel Francois resign from the Army. They also ask for the immediate return of President Aristide to stop the suffering of the people. Meanwhile, since the new sanctions went into effect in the country, activities have slowed to 80 percent in the Cap-Haitian harbor and airport. For instance, flights between Cap-Haitian and Miami have been reduced to one. The situation is almost the same in the harbor.

Lawmaker Recommends Intra-Haitian Negotiations

FL1606223194 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Passages within italics in Creole]

[Text] Deputy Antoine Joseph recommends intra-Haitian negotiations to avoid a military intervention against Haiti. The lawmaker believes the Chamber of Deputies could play an important role in these negotiations. To the former president of the Chamber of Deputies, it is necessary to preserve national sovereignty in exploring dialogue.

[Begin Joseph recording] Any self-respecting Haitian must say no to intervention. *I do not believe that preparing for war is the solution. What matters now is how to avoid the intervention with a minimum of breakdowns with regard to the actors concerned in the crisis. I admit that the Security Council resolution complicated the situation because it goes beyond the Governors Island accord. The accord had asked for the resignation of General Cedras, while the resolution asks for the resignation of the police chief and the Army staff as well.*

Therefore, I believe it is more than time to begin intra-Haitian negotiations. If we consider all that is happening right now—with Jonassaint, a government that is not well installed, no prime minister—I believe the Chamber of Deputies now constitutes a reserve or reference that can begin intra-Haitian negotiations, negotiations with Gen. Cedras and the Army members to see how we can study the Security Council resolution and later extend those negotiations to the international level in an effort to find a solution before 25 June.

I think it is possible. Personally, as a lawmaker and a former president of the lower chamber, and having a certain knowledge of the political matters of this country, I am ready to participate in all negotiations aimed at avoiding an intervention in the country, but mostly to put an end to this everlasting crisis. [end recording]

FRAPH on Resistance to U.S. Intervention

FL1606194794 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Passages within quotation marks in Creole]

[Excerpts] The FRAPH [Revolutionary Front for the Promotion and Progress of Haiti] is on the way to becoming the Armed Revolutionary Front of the Haitian People. The high administrative staff of the FRAPH has decided to change strategy as of next 21 June. During a press briefing held on 15 June, Emmanuel Constant declared that the resistance to any U.S. military intervention in Haiti has begun. Let us listen to the report of Luckenson Jean:

[Begin recording] [Constant] "All of us are ready, are we not, to die with our weapons in our hands. FRAPH, where are you? [crowd shouts: "Here we are!"] FRAPH, where are you? [crowd shouts: "Here we are!"] FRAPH, where are you? [crowd shouts: "Here we are!"] Divisions? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Divisions? [crowd shouts: "No!"] Solidarity? [crowd shouts: "Yes!"]"

[Jean] "On next 21 June, FRAPH will stand for the Armed Revolutionary Front of the Haitian People. As of the afternoon of 15 June, FRAPH declared that the national resistance against the enemy has begun. The FRAPH leader asked all foreigners living in the country not to leave the national territory as a sign of solidarity with the Haitian people, to not to follow the evacuation communique issued by the U.S. Embassy. These statements were made by Toto Constant in his home at about 1500."

[Constant] Today, we, together, solemnly declare that the Haitian resistance has begun. First, it will be passive resistance. Then, if that does not work and the international community and President Clinton do not hear our cry of alarm, we will begin active resistance. We invite the national and international press to a news conference that will be held on Tuesday, 21 June at 1400, not by the FRAPH, but by the Armed Revolutionary Front of the Haitian People.

[Jean] "Constant criticized U.S. President Clinton, UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, and Mr. Gray, the new person in charge of the Haitian file. He asked them to review their decisions so Haiti does not turn into Somalia. Several children, several small Haitian children, have already died as a result of the negative effects of the embargo. FRAPH congratulated the commander in chief of the Army and the police chief; it asked them to remain steadfast, and supported the communique on the state of emergency of the third provisional government not acknowledged by the international community and which most parliamentarians term an abuse of authority.

"According to the FRAPH leader, the foreign intervention which hangs over the country like the sword of Damocles is unfair and criminal. Constant thinks the intervention is aimed at assassinating FRAPH members and the civilian population."

[Constant] [passage omitted] We in FRAPH fully support the Haitian Armed Forces, the Port-au-Prince police, and provisional President Emile Jonassaint within the scope of providing security for the foreign and national population.

[Jean] [passage omitted] They and all political parties are ready to order a state of siege throughout the national territory. Constant asked the Haitian people to defend the achievements of 1946, 1957, 1991, and even 1994 without violence. FRAPH finds itself compelled to secure its members and they will be armed with traditional weapons such as pikes, potions, and so on. [passage omitted]

[Constant] We need a government [pauses] we need a return to constitutional order of the center-right nature,

but not a populist return to constitutional order. If Mr. Gray continues to destroy diplomacy, as far as we are concerned, we have decided to die innocently and unfairly. [passage omitted]

[Jean] "The Bible says a house divided against itself shall fall. Constant says he has no disagreement with Chamblain and there is no division within FRAPH, contrary to what they are saying. Concerning the other parallel parties, such as the Assembly of Democrats for the Republic, the Volunteers for National Security, and the Capois Lamort Organization [OCL], Constant said they are all members of the great 30 September [1991] family who have different views on the situation.

"Toto Constant, who was wearing a gray suit and who held a one and one half year-old girl, who was wearing a white dress, stated that the child represented the innocence of the Haitian people. We should tell you there was much suspense among the audience made up of FRAPH members coming from various areas in the capital. The conference was not held in the living room, like what is usually done, but in the yard under a custard apple tree. Chamblain and the leader of the OCL were not present at this conference. Luckenson Jean for Signal FM." [end recording]

It should be noted that the provisional government pointed out last month that only the Army and the police are recognized as armed forces by the Haitian Constitution.

Jamaica

First Group of Haitians Arrives for Processing

FL1606192094 Kingston RJR Network in English 1700 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] The first group of Haitians to be processed off the coast of Jamaica arrived in Jamaican waters this morning. The Haitian boat people were picked up at sea by a U.S. Coast Guard vessel. It is expected that these Haitians will be taken on board the processing vessel the Comfort off the coast of Port Royal soon. The opposition Jamaica Labor Party [JLP] yesterday asked a number of questions about the memorandum of understanding between the Government of Jamaica and the United States Government establishing a facility to process Haitian refugees within the Jamaican territorial waters. JLP chairman (Booth Golding) asked whether Haitian nationals found at sea outside of the United States waters will be protected by the U.S. authorities after ascertaining whether they are in Haitian refugee status. He also asked what international law or convention governs the [words indistinct].

In a message to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Dr. Paul Robertson, Mr. (Golding) raises 13 qusetions on the memorandum of understanding. He asks what is the legal basis for the compulsory repatriation of Haitian nationals by United States authorities when the port of exit Jamaica. The JLP chairman also asked what role the Jamaican authorities have in the event of death or injury to any Haitian on board a processing facility. On the question of funding, Mr. (Golding) asked what recourse is available to the Jamaican Government in the event that the United States Government is not able to reimburse the Jamaican Government for the directly attributable costs incurred in this operation.

Yesterday Brigadier General of the U.S. [word indistinct] Mike Williams told the Jamaican media that adequate systems were in place for the disposal of food and other wastes. He said both the Comfort and the [name indistinct], the Ukranian vessel which will support the U.S. Naval ship, (?conform with) international and environmental regulations. He also allayed the fears of those concerned that the docking of the naval ship was the beginning of a plan for an invasion of Haiti. The [name indistinct] also docked yesterday [words indistinct] one mile off Lime Cay.

Foreign Minister on Sea Convention Law, Headquarters

FL1606144094 Castries HTS Caribvision Television in English 1945 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Text] The International Seabed Authority is now located in Jamaica. The Authority is expected to hold its first meeting in Kingston on the 16th of November. This follows an agreement reached by the developed nations of the world on June 3 to ratify the United Nations convention on the Law of the Sea. This disclosure was made by Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Dr. Paul Robertson during his contribution to the 1994-95 sectoral debate. Philip Hamilton has more:

[Begin recording] [Hamilton] The breakthrough follows years of intense debate between the United Nations and several industrialzed countries where technology [words indistinct]. The United States had long opposed the section of the convention dealing with the mining of seabed resources, an issue which saw them refusing to ratify the convention for well over a decade. Minister Robertson told parliament that Jamaica had played a key role in the agreement, which will be presented for adoption next month at the special UN General Assembly.

[Robertson] The main, outstanding issue involved the role and activities of the multilaterally owned enterprise in the mining of the seabed as against private entities. That was the sticking point why a number of the industrialized countries did not sign.

[Hamilton] But there has been much controversy over the site for the Seabed Authority's headquarters. Although Kingston was chosen as the headquarters interim site several years ago, Montego Bay has been lobbying hard for the Authority's permanent home. Minister Robertson says it will be some time before the permanent headquarters is constructed in Jamaica. He says the site will be determined by the United Nations based on several criteria, among them infrastructure as well as security.

10,000 Demonstrate in Chiapas for Peace

PA1606172894 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1606 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 16 Jun (EFE)—More than 10,000 people today took part in a demonstration called by the Crusade for Peace. The demonstration, which followed the Zapatist National Liberation Army's [EZLN] refusal to sign a peace agreement, took place in Tuxtla Gutierrez, capital of Chiapas.

The demonstration came four days after the EZLN announced that it will not accept the government's response to its demands and that it will not sign a peace agreement in Chiapas. Most of the demonstrators wore white clothes, which, according to them, symbolize their hope for restoring peace in the state, and they asked that war be avoided because it will only engender more misery.

Jose Perez, leader of the Tzotzil, one of three major Indian groups in the area, indicated that his people want to live in peace and that they plan to respect the law, as long as it is fair and equitable.

Perez stressed that peace begins with respect for the law, adding: "We, Indians, have our own customs, which do not contradict the laws of the nation and which also deserve to be respected by the authorities." [passage omitted]

Chiapas Peace Commissioner Camacho Solis Resigns

PA1706035394 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0319 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jun (EFE)—Today, Manuel Camacho Solis, commissioner for peace and reconciliation in Chiapas, resigned his post due to criticisms made by PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] Candidate Ernesto Zedillo on his role in the Chiapas conflict.

Camacho expressed his disagreement with Zedillo's position, which he said weakened his efforts in the political negotiations with the Zapatist National Liberation Army (EZLN).

Camacho's resignation is in a letter to Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, which Camacho read to journalists at a hotel in Mexico City at 2100 local (0300 GMT Friday).

Further on Resignation

PA1706041394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0343 GMT 17 Jun 94

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Manuel Camacho Solis, commissioner for peace and reconciliation in the southeastern Mexican State of Chiapas today announced his decision to leave that presidential post and return to private life.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari designated Camacho Solis peace commissioner on 10 January to seek reconciliation with the armed group that emerged in the north-central area of Chiapas on 1 January to fight for the demands of indigenous groups.

Peace Commissioner on Resolving Conflict

PA1706033794 Mexico City EL FINANCIERO in Spanish 15 Jun 94 p 50

[Report by Rodolfo Rojas-Zea]

[Text] Yesterday, Peace Commissioner Manuel Camacho Solis said there are two alternatives for definitively resolving the unresolved Chiapas conflict: "One, the position that the Zapatist National Liberation Army (EZLN) has presented, and two, the position which, from my point of view, should be strengthened—the reinforcement of national policy but within republican institutions, the branches of state, and civilian society."

"There will be nuances, differences and contradictions, but I believe that as the pace of the national political debate picks up, as solutions and proposals are established, and as specific progress is made in the area of democracy, pressure will naturally decrease and we will make a direct contribution to the consolidation of peace."

Camacho Solis admitted this issue "has been quite complex from the beginning because it linked national policy to issues of justice in Indian communities in Chiapas and the entire country." That is why "we had to merge agendas into one in which we made a specific proposal that referred solely to Chiapas and to two points of national policy."

"The Chiapas issue has been linked and tied to the national political situation at all times. The political institutions have been responding with positive steps in this direction."

By seeing matters in this light, "we are able to explain why, with great responsibility, the candidates to the Presidency of the republic and the political parties were able to sign the 27 January Peace, Justice, and Democracy Agreement, which reduced the pressure in Chiapas and continued the initiative to implement new changes."

This thing, "call it the evolution of local and national aspects whereby national aspects are reactivated within the sphere under their control as part of the justification of the Chiapas conflict, is what will pave the way for a final solution to the problem," he affirmed.

Interviewed by Jose Gutierrez Vivo on Radio Red, the peace commissioner said the Zapatists "are not asking for material things in exchange for not attacking the Army but, rather, for a new pact with the government."

The EZLN "is offering this possibility to maintain a situation of calm, but we have to admit that as long as

there is no commitment, accidents could occur, accidents that could complicate the negotiations."

The peace commissioner expressed optimism regarding "a 10-day war and five months without any deaths," a war in which the Mexican Army and the EZLN "have kept their commitments and backed a political solution to the conflict without firing one single shot."

Gutierrez asked Camacho if he accepted the opinions given by several sectors that he had failed in his mission to find peace. The commissioner said: "At this time, there is no other instance in the world in which a war has been interrupted so quickly and where a situation of nonaggression has prevailed for so long."

"The first option, he explained, was to move from a belligerent situation; the second, to maintain the truce; and the third, which we have considered optimistically, to attain additional advances that would allow us to consolidate the truce."

He admitted that "it is not foreseeable within the prevailing situation that the peace accords will be signed, but what is important are the events that occur."

Based on those options, "we sent a letter to the president of the republic to report on the situation since it began, trying to describe with all clarity the ideology, that is, the origin, of the conflict and the options available to the Mexican Government in light of the decisions the EZLN could possibly make."

"We have also prepared," he disclosed, "a letter to the EZLN requesting clear evidence of its nonbelligerence because this is what is really important, and I want to state here, with all clarity, that all the evidence and accounts I have requested from the EZLN in this respect were accepted, explicitly or tacitly, and, it seems to me, this is of utmost importance."

Camacho said that "confronted with those events, the tendency of public opinion was to say nothing was being done. This is quite a sensitive issue because we are complying with our commitment."

That is why, he added, "we have to make a clear-cut distinction in the EZLN communiques, between the political issues and their contents regarding security and military topics," because "concerning the national political issues, they present hard, even radical positions. I cannot complain, however, about their compliance with the promise of maintaining peace in Chiapas. In this regard, they have proceeded seriously and with responsibility."

"Of course, this would have never been possible without the meetings with the president of the republic who allowed the dialogue to further harmony, and this led to the interruption of the war, greater calm in Chiapas, and the consolidation of the truce under the prevailing conditions up to now."

Gutierrez asked if Mexicans are still threatened by this war and how will the situation be resolved completely. The peace commissioner replied: "The EZLN has explicitly declared it will not take any offensive actions, and this has a political value and is also significant because, logically, the Zapatists must justify their movements before national and international public opinion."

President Salinas on Peace Process, Cease-Fire

PA1606132194 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 14 Jun 94

[From the "Early Morning" newscast]

[Text] Yesterday, President Salinas said there is a national consensus on peace. He said the negative position the Zapatist National Liberation Army [EZLN] has expressed in Chiapas is more a political issue than a social problem.

[Begin Salinas recording] The peace process continues, and local organizations must ensure smooth progress. Allow me to say the efforts of the peace commissioner and the mediator have paved the way for the San Cristobal negotiations and certified the cease-fire. Their job was quite satisfactory and constituted a starting point for continued progress.

Allow me to say that despite not having a formal peace agreement yet, it is noteworthy to mention the cease-fire is still in effect, and both sides do prefer a political solution for peace. These two things, the cease-fire and the political solution, have been achieved. They confirm the strategy we chose to deal with the problem from the very beginning was in fact the correct one.

We have managed to build a national consensus in favor of peace. The EZLN's response seems to come from a more political decision than as the result of social or justice analyses. The federal government reaffirms the following:

1. We will proceed to ensure military security in the area and guarantee national sovereignty over the territory.
2. Current social programs will be reinforced, particularly for health and supplies.
3. Government institutions, organizations, parties, and society in general will participate in the continuing debate on the country's political and democratic progress, in accordance with the law. [end recording]

Costa Rica

Courts Deny U.S. Extradition Request

PA1606203994 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1847 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] San Jose, 16 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Costa Rican courts today denied the U.S. request to extradite Hubert Matos Araluce, son of Cuban anti-Castro leader Hubert Matos, who is wanted by U.S. authorities for fraud.

The Fourth Constitutional Chamber's decision, which was disclosed today, confirmed that Matos Araluce has been a Costa Rican citizen since 24 March, according to a National Immigration Council agreement.

The extradition request, the higher court emphasized, was made after Costa Rican citizenship was granted to Matos Araluce, who is currently entitled to the protection of Costa Rican laws. The higher court indicated in its decision that the Constitution stipulates that no Costa Rican citizen, either by birth or naturalization, can be deported or extradited from the country.

The decision also required the state to compensate Matos Araluce for damages. In the extradition request, submitted by the U.S. Embassy in San Jose, Matos Araluce is accused of repeated fraud in Florida.

Figueres 'Very Satisfied' With Summit Results

PA1706023594 Paris AFP in Spanish 2015 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] San Jose, 16 Jun (AFP)—Central America "went united and returned even more united" from the Ibero-American summit held this week in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, where the area's proposals received a major boost, Costa Rican President Jose Figueres stated upon his return from the hemispheric meeting.

Figueres arrived at noon aboard an airplane provided by Colombian President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo in the company of Salvadoran President Armando Calderon Sol, Honduran President Carlos Roberto Reina, Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio, and Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, who continued their journeys to their respective countries this afternoon.

Figueres said during a news conference that one of the topics discussed in Colombia was the possibility of negotiating jointly a free trade agreement in the near future, taking private sectors "very much into consideration." Central Americans want Colombia and Venezuela to grant them an asymmetrical preference treatment in terms of value added and place of origin rules, as well as in terms of the time it would take for the agreements to enter into force.

On another topic of interest to the region, namely its electricity power grid, Figueres said Spain is willing to finance the first $100 million the project costs, with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) financing the remaining $350 million. Spain will also contribute $320 million to the financing the IDB will grant for other projects in those countries.

According to Figueres, Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez pledged to decide on the Central American request to Spain to provide capitalization funds to the Central American Bank of Economic Integration (BCIE). For this purpose, Gaviria offered approximately $70 million, Argentine President Carlos Menem, 60 million [currency not specified], and Venezuelan President Rafael Caldera talked of the possibility that his country will contribute 122.5 million [currency not specified], an amount similar to that which Mexico had provided to the BCIE.

Figueres said he felt "very satisfied" with the results of the Ibero-American summit and the accompanying bilateral and multilateral meetings, where, he said, the participants discussed the topics of democracy, independence of the Judicial Branch, strengthening electoral courts, commercial exchange, human rights, the war on poverty, and the need to boost social investments, among many others.

Guatemala

Government, Guerrillas Begin Peace Talks in Oslo

PM1606132094 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 14 Jun 94 p 4

[Report by Arne B. Thorbjornsen: "Great Faith in Peace in Guatemala"]

[Text] The tone was optimistic, and trust in peace was strong when the two sides in the Guatemala conflict met in Oslo yesterday.

"I am expecting progress, and I am also expecting that the negotiations on the two topics that are up for discussion will be completed," UN peace mediator Jean Arnault said before the representatives of the government and the guerrillas in Guatemala began their negotiations behind closed doors in Oslo yesterday morning.

How is Guatemala to handle its settling of accounts with the past? This is the most tricky aspect of the whole process, and it is the issue which the two sides will try to resolve in the course of this week. There will also be discussion of new settlements for those who have been driven from their homes—people whom the civil war has made refugees in their own country.

"If we find a solution to these issues, this will open the way to reaching our goal," Arnault said.

The goal is the signing of a peace agreement before the end of the year. Agreement on this was reached in Mexico in January when a timetable was drawn up for how month by month the various conflict issues would be dealt with. Later this year there will, for example, be discussion of the

identity and rights of the aboriginal population, the distribution of land, the strengthening of the civilian state, the place of the army in a democratic society, and the integration of the guerrillas into political life.

None of these questions is easy to solve, and the settling of accounts with the past and the countless brutal breaches of human rights is the most difficult question of all.

The figures are uncertain, but it is safe to say that at least 130,000 people have been killed and 40,000 have disappeared. The aim is to set up a "truth commission" which will look into what has happened, and it is revelations regarding its role in massacres and purges that the military machine fears most of all. The armed forces have claimed the whole time that they do not see the need for a truth commission. Kirkens Nodhjelp [Church Emergency Aid] in particular has played a role as a bridge-builder and helped to get the army to agree to negotiations on this sensitive issue.

In his welcome speech to the envoys, Foreign Minister Bjorn Tore Godal said that Norway is ready to make its contribution to guarantee the economic base for the peace process. He also stressed that peace is more than the absence of war, and it can only be created by the parties themselves.

The leaders of the two delegations both stressed how important it is that a truth commission be set up. "Clearing up the past opens the door to the future," said Dr. Hector Rosada, the government chief negotiator. The leader of the guerrilla group, Carlos Gonzalez, said that it is important not only to investigate breaches of human rights and to prevent new breaches taking place, but also to punish where this is necessary.

President 'Optimistic' About Talks

PA1706034394 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2303 GMT 13 Jun 94

[Text] Cartagena de Indias (Colombia), 13 Jun (EFE)—Guatemalan President Ramiro de Leon Carpio today said he is very optimistic about the way the peace talks in Oslo, between his government and the guerrillas, are going. De Leon, who arrived today in Cartagena de Indias to attend the Fourth Ibero-American Summit told EFE that "the discussion of the displaced persons is being concluded." This issue was one of the biggest obstacles in the past two months of talks in Mexico.

In Mexico, the Guatemalan Government and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) discussed a solution for the resettling of thousands of peasants who have fled the war torn areas in northern Guatemala since 1960. The return of the displaced persons was not agreed on during the talks in Mexico because the government demanded a cease-fire in the area which the rebels refused to accept if progress was not made in other areas.

Ramiro de Leon, who was sworn in as president of Guatemala a year ago following Jorge Serrano's foiled self-inflicted coup, told EFE that he believes the talks in Norway are "positive" and added that he is waiting for more news on the meeting.

The Oslo meeting was scheduled to discuss the creation of the Truth Commission which, as in the Salvadoran case, would investigate crimes and human rights violations during the conflict; however, the Guatemalan Government does not want to advance on this issue until an agreement is reached on the displaced persons.

The Guatemalan Government and the URNG began peace talks in 1991, but it was not until this year that they reached an agreement regarding human rights and the drafting of a timetable for negotiations that should end this year with the signing of a peace agreement.

Third Electric Pylon Dynamited

PA1606180794 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1652 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Official sources confirmed today that a group of unidentified people dynamited an electricity pylon in the municipality of Concepcion in the southern department of Escuintla. As a result, several communities have no electricity.

The National Police indicated that early this morning several men planted dynamite cartridges on two of the four sides of the pylon, which was partly destroyed while the homes of some 100,000 people were left without electric power.

According to the Police, the Army arrived in the area and began to comb the mountains for those responsible for the attack.

The Police said that last Saturday another two electricity pylons were dynamited in the country's interior, and no victims have been reported yet.

The attacks took place within the framework of the meeting between the government and the Guatemalan guerrillas in Oslo, Norway, where the parties are considering the creation of a Verification Commission of the Historic Past. Guatemala has endured a 34-year armed conflict, which has resulted in some 175,000 victims.

Honduras

'Routine' Changes Made in Military Hierarchy

PA1606174994 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 16 Jun 94 p 14

[Text] Military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Napoleon Santos Aguilar, announced yesterday that the

Senior Council of the Armed Forces, during an extraordinary session, decided to make routine changes in the positions of the Armed Forces hierarchy to energize the Armed Forces.

According to Santos Aguilar's announcement, Colonel Mario Raul Hung Pacheco, formerly the commander general of the Public Security Force (FSP), is now commander general of the Army.

Meanwhile, former Army commander General Guillermo Paredes is now inspector general of the Armed Forces, replacing Filander Armijo Ucles, who will now be an adviser to the commander-in-chief.

At the head of the FSP is Colonel Roberto Lazarus Lozano, who was formerly chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, a post that will now be filled by Colonel Luis Alonso Villatoro Villeda.

Also promoted was General Hector Castro Cabus, general commander of the Honduran Air Force (FAH), who will now be an adviser to the commander-in-chief. Currently at the head of the FAH is Air Force Colonel Oscar Servellon Moradel.

It has also been announced that Police Colonel Julio Cesar Chavez is now chief of the FSP General Staff.

The Directorate of the National Defense College is now headed by Artillery Colonel Jose Luis Nunez Bennet, who was formerly the director of the Armed Forces Command and Staff School which, as of today, will be directed by Colonel Jose Francisco Davila Nolasco, who was formerly the chief of Armed Forces General Staff operations.

Colonel Julio Armando Pavon Rodriguez, who until yesterday was director of the National Defense College, is now assistant joint chief of staff, replacing Colonel Claudio Lainez Coello, who is now an adviser to the commander-in-chief.

Colonels Jose Santos Ortez Pena, Luis Alberto Soto Ponce, Inocente Borjas Santos and Alberto Urcira Reyes, are now the respective heads of: the Office of Joint Chief of Staff Operations C-3, the General Staff Directorate of Civilian Affairs C-5, the Directorate of Recruitment C-7, and the General Secretaryship of the General Staff.

Colonel Guillermo Pinel Calix, who was Armed Forces director of operations and maintenance until yesterday, is now director of Military Intelligence C-2.

Military Spokesman Napoleon Santos Aguilar pointed out that Joint Chief of Staff General Lazaro Melanio Avila Soleno was confirmed in the post by Armed Forces Chief General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir.

Col. Santos explained that certain departments of the different branches of the Armed Forces can now be changed because the new chiefs and commanders have been authorized to do so.

He pointed out that certain officers were appointed to advisory positions because their experience renders them more useful to the commander-in-chief.

Col. Santos explained that this was not the case on this occasion, but certain officers who have reached retirement age must retire from the Army. "At this time, however, the officers of the Sixth Graduating Class have simply been appointed to advisory positions," he said.

[Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish at 2137 GMT on 15 June publishes a similar a 300-word report on the changes within the Honduran Armed Forces hierarchy. The report says the changes are indicative of "difficulties" within the Armed Forces, and adds that "the Armed Forces have begun to get rid of certain officers who have been publicly accused of illicit enrichment."]

Armed Forces Chief on Closing of Investigation Department

PA1706045694 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 13 Jun 94 p3

[Text] General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, Honduran Armed Forces commander in chief, said during the ceremony closing the Department of National Investigation (DNI) respect for the law requires a coercive power. He termed as historic the work performed by the DNI, which has been forced to yield to a new organization conceived within the framework of state modernization in line with the process of transformation, which is shaking the foundations of public and private institutions.

The top military chief said that justice is the gauge of civilization and that the greatest ruin of a nation is not that many of its residents do not fear God, but that those who do not fear God do not fear the law either. He said that as bad as it is that men do not feel subject to a powerful, moral law, it is even worse that they do not respect the legal system, which is what makes public order, social peace, and human coexistence possible.

Discua said that the police forces were born as auxiliaries of justice and that what has happened recently is an indication the world is preparing for the advent of a better society.

"That is how we understand it, and we accept it that way. We believe in those who will henceforth have to handle these matters," he added. Discua said that personnel of the current Directorate of Criminal Investigation earn a decent salary and that professional training and social sensitivity are requirements that further the state's interests.

He said the members of the defunct DNI have fulfilled their work in the face of every adversity and act of ingratitude. He admitted that those agents have made mistakes, and, being human, were not as perfect as their critics and that they lacked the supernatural qualities claimed by those who offended and insulted them everyday.

"The fatherland and thinking citizens will recognize their sacrifice someday," the military chief added, referring to the DNI agents who stood for five hours on the parade grounds of the National Police School (Anapo).

Army Commander on Border Patrols With Nicaragua

PA1706045494 Tegucigalpa EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS in Spanish 13 Jun 94 p 12

[Text] Tegucigalpa—Army Commander General Guillermo Paredes has said the joint patrols Honduran and Nicaraguan troops are conducting along the border are yielding positive results. The military chief has said the operation along the border consists of an inspection of each area, although the troops coincide only in certain points to coordinate actions against delinquents, rearmed groups, or drug traffickers.

He added the war on drug trafficking, which has been intensified in recent days, is primarily a police task, but the military force is present to provide support whenever necessary. He explained it is inadvisable to report on the border patrol operations, because that would alert delinquents.

Paredes has also said the ceremony marking the closing of the DNI [Department of National Investigation] was an appropriate recognition of those who devoted their lives to serving the fatherland. In addition, the ranking officer has said that the DNI had heroes who gave their lives in service of their country and that this was an indication of loyalty and devotion. Paredes has said the DNI closure is a historic event, because a civilian corps technical in nature will replace this institution.

Modern times point to new paths, Paredes has said, but we must be careful whenever substantial changes are made in organizations that are in charge of public security, because an error of appreciation could generate problems in the near future. The DNI, he added, has to be replaced by a corps with greater professional outreach, capable of facing the high crime rate that has beset the Honduran nation.

Nicaragua

Finance Minister, Bank President on Paris Club Loans

PA1606152194 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 14 Jun 94

[From the "National Newscast"]

[Text] Nicaragua will request $1.6 billion in loans from the Paris Club for the next three years. Before departing for Europe, Finance Minister Emilio Pereira and Central Bank President Evenor Taboada reported that the World Bank and IMF Boards of Directors will approve soft loans for Nicaragua next week.

In Paris, a government delegation headed by the Presidency minister will present to the delegates of 25 countries the country's economic strategy for the next three years.

[Begin recording] [Taboada] The agenda deals with Nicaragua's cooperation, reform, and modernization, the transformation of its social agenda, and its need for technical, economic, and social assistance.

[Pereira] Approximately $310 million of the $550 to $560 million that we expect to borrow in 1994 has virtually been obtained. [end recording]

The officials reported that they will request a total of $1.6 billion for the next three years. In addition, they reported that the IMF and the World Bank will approve loans soon.

[Begin Taboada recording] The IMF director and the World Bank Board of Directors on 22 and 23 June will study Nicaragua's request, after which we expect to receive the first disbursements. [end recording]

One of the subjects to be explained to the Paris Club is the progress attained in the solution of problems related to the confiscation of real estate owned by foreigners.

[Begin Pereira recording] We are confident there will be no problems. I am taking a report of all the cases that have been settled and whose solutions meet other countries' demands with me in my portfolio. [end recording]

The Presidency minister will fly to Paris tomorrow.

Panama

COPA Airline To Suspend Haiti Flights 26 Jun

PA1606164894 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 16 Jun 94 p48

[Report by Esteban Huertas G.]

[Text] The Compania Panamena de Aviacion (COPA) airline will suspend its two weekly flights to Haiti beginning on 26 June to comply with UN sanctions. Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos G. Cordero announced the measure, stating that the suspension of flights to Haiti complies with the commercial blockade imposed by the United Nations and the OAS against the Raoul Cedras military regime.

Cordero told the media that yesterday, "acting President Guillermo Ford Boyd signed the decree establishing the prohibition of flights to Port-au-Prince effective 26 June."

COPA was the only Latin American airline covering the route to the Caribbean nation. Regarding this measure, a COPA source said the company does not yet have the official notification from the central government. The

airline official said that General Manager Pedro Heilbron will be returning from a trip to Miami tomorrow and that Deputy Manager Moises Veliz is on vacation.

When LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA previously interviewed Heilbron, he said the company "will comply with the government's order as long as the U.S. airlines suspend their commercial flights to Haiti."

According to Heilbron, the U.S. companies "did not comply" with the previous two sanctions established by the international organizations against the Caribbean island.

The COPA flights to Haiti mainly carry Haitian businessmen and merchants coming to Panama to make purchases in the Colon Free Zone.

Argentina

President Menem Returns From Ibero-American Summit

PY1606131194 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1115 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jun (NA)—President Carlos Menem denied today that it could be considered a defeat that the chiefs of state participating in the Ibero-American Summit had not issued an opinion against abortion, as "only three or four countries" had opposed his proposal, for which reason the required unanimity was not obtained.

Menem also indicated that he "absolutely" was not bothered by the demonstration, called the Federal March to Plaza de Mayo, announced by state unions in the interior of the country, as long as they do not "create any kind of disturbances."

The president made these remarks upon arriving at the Metropolitan Airport from Colombia just before 0800.

Panama's Endara Arrives on Private Visit

PY1606173894 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1616 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jun (EFE)—Panamanian President Guillermo Endara today began a private visit to Buenos Aires through a special invitation from his Argentine colleague, Carlos Menem.

The two chiefs of state travelled together to Buenos Aires from the Colombian city of Cartagena de Indias, where the Fourth Ibero-American Summit closed on 15 June.

During the summit, the Central American countries obtained economic support from Colombia, Argentina, and Venezuela and political support for Honduras in its quest for a seat on the UN Security Council and the holding of the Ibero-American Summit in Panama in the year 2000.

Endara's stay in Buenos Aires, where he will meet several times with Menem, will conclude on 19 June, according to the Honduran [as received] Embassy in Buenos Aires.

Supreme Court Decision Will Affect Reelection

PY1606173794 Buenos Aires PAGINA/12 in Spanish 14 Jun 94 p 11

[Text] The Supreme Court might have to decide between the reelection of Carlos Menem or Eduardo Duhalde now that disputes involving both [national and Buenos Aires Province] constituent assemblies have ended in court.

In the case of the National Constituent Assembly, minority blocs sought a court injunction to get the Assembly to respect their right to vote on the 13 agreements of the package closed by Carlos Menem and Raul Alfonsin item by item. The assembly had decided the 13 amendments will be voted on as a single package. Radical [Radical Civic Union, UCR] and Justicialist [Justicialist Party, PJ] leaders will appeal Judge Raul Dalla Fontana's decision to allow the complaints of provincial parties. The Supreme Court will now decide if the courts can consider Constituent Assembly decisions. The parties that signed the pact [UCR and PJ] want the court to dismiss the complaint on the grounds that Constituent Assembly decisions cannot be considered by the courts.

If the court dismisses the complaint it will hurt Eduardo Duhalde, whose followers have filed a petition arguing that regulations approved by the Grand Front, Modin [Movement for Independence and Dignity], and UCR alliance are unconstitutional. If the court decides it cannot consider National Constituent Assembly decisions it will also be unable to discuss the Buenos Aires Constituent Assembly regulations and Duhalde will be unable to change the regulation that bans him from seeking reelection.

ΩMedia Notes: Economic Roundup

94P20890A

[Editorial Report]

Businessmen Scrutinize Economic Policy

The business sector "Group of Eight," composed of the Argentine Banking Association (ABRA), the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA), the Argentine Union of Construction (UAC), the Association of Argentine Banks (Adeba), the Commodity Exchange, the Chamber of Commerce (CAC), the Argentine Construction Board (CAC), and the Argentine Rural Society (SRA), has decided to meet regularly, "at intervals no greater than 30 days, to analyze key aspects of [the Argentine Government's] economic policy and its political and social implications," reported the 12 May Buenos Aires LA NACION. According to the daily, the current Constituent Assembly as well as the 1995 presidential elections are the reasons why this "exclusive" group of "business organizations most plugged into power" has decided to meet more frequently. Key topics discussed at the group's second meeting this year on 11 May were labor flexibility, privatizations in the provinces, and the deregulation of labor union and business sector pension plans. "Without labor flexibility, we won't be able to attack the scourge of unemployment," asserted Chamber of Commerce President Jorge Fiori. According to another report in the 11 May LA NACION, other topics on the agenda were the Argentine Government's social policy, exports, tariffs, and the desirability of lifting the economic state of emergency. "Even though there are issues still pending in the country, economic conditions are no longer uncertain," according to an unidentified leader of the Argentine Construction Board.

Banks Seek Reduced Costs

Bankers belonging to the Association of Argentine Banks (Adeba) have called for the elimination of taxes and other expenses which "significantly" push up the costs of doing business and thus the price charged for financial services, reported the 13 May Buenos Aires LA PRENSA. The main obstacles to cost reduction cited by Adeba bankers are:

—the social security contribution;

—the Institute of Banking Social Services (ISSB) contribution, the equivalent of 2 percent of banking commissions and interest. This expenditure, which is equal to 11.7 percent of bank personnel salaries and "eats up" 4 percent of administrative expenses, "must be abolished," insisted the bankers;

—the absence of a tax deduction from gross earnings for banking activities in Buenos Aires, where 60 percent of financial operations take place. Such a tax deduction would save 7 percent of bank administrative costs;

—physical security expenses, which absorb $500,000 monthly and constitute 2 percent of administrative expenses;

—check-holding requirements, which cause high outlays for transfers;

—minimum reserve requirements which do not include branch office assets and funds in transit.

"Even though the peso system has a 40 percent reserve requirement, in reality it becomes 65 percent of deposits" since the branch office assets and funds in transit are not included, continued LA NACION. Eduardo Escasany, Adeba president and Banco de Galicia head, explained that "the 40 percent reserve is necessary because there is no guarantee on deposits." He added, however, that banks "should work with the additional 25 percent."

Study of Provincial Financial Markets

The Association of Argentine Banks (Adeba) and the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA) have formed a working group to study the causes of high interest rates in the provinces and their impact on small and medium-sized businesses (PYMES), reported the 13 May Buenos Aires daily LA PRENSA. The goal of the joint commission is to evaluate provincial financial markets and come up with solutions to the high cost of credit which hinders production.

Former Economy Minister on Exports Trend

While recognizing that Argentina's ratio of exports to Gross Domestic Product (5 percent) is "pitifully small," former Economy Minister Roberto Alemann has predicted that the country will increase exports due to a retooling of businesses, the recovery of the international economy, and better market access following the GATT agreement, according to the 8 May Buenos Aires LA NACION.

After suffering with "the worst trade terms of the century" for the past two or three years, Alemann asserted, there would be substantial improvements for agricultural exports. He said it looked like the 40 million tons of grains that Argentina exported in 1993 might bring in $1 billion more during 1994 for a total of $5 billion. As a result of the GATT agreement, he added, Argentina has secured the sale of 11,000 tons per year of special cuts of high-quality meat to the European Union (EU) at a cost of $100 million, as well as an annual 20,000-ton quota from the United States. "Argentina may also benefit from a change in the European Union's meat stocks, which dropped 1 million tons in 1993 to less than 400,000." He explained that if these stocks continue to shrink at such a fast pace, by the end of 1994 nothing will be left, in which case meat prices may improve and Argentina may reclaim its role as a great meat exporter. Alemann concluded that, in general, the outlook for Argentine exports was favorable due to cuts in U.S. and EU subsidies, the reduction of quotas, and prospects for better prices.

Regarding improvements for Argentine exports due to conditions inside the country, Alemann pointed to hydrocarbons. "Argentina is already producing around 40 million cubic meters of oil, a large portion of which is exported. The oil pipeline to Chile alone channels exports worth $500 million annually." He also mentioned "the enormous gas field recently discovered off the coast of Tierra del Fuego," another site under study in Salta, and the Loma de la Lata-Santiago de Chile gasline as other good potential sources of foreign exchange. The former minister added that currently there are 40 mining projects under way in Argentina. A $600 million investment has been announced for the Bajo de la Alumbrera site alone, while $100 million will be invested at Salar de Hombre Muerto. "All this production will be exported," asserted Alemann. "Argentina will be a great exporter of lithium and its by-products. For the first time, the country will be exporting large quantities of minerals, among them gold, copper, and silver. We'll have to give this sector a couple of years and the results may be startling."

Alemann also predicted that the fishing sector would increase exports by $200 million in 1994.

Argentine Businessmen 'Prefer Domestic Market'

According to Secretary for International Economic Negotiations Jorge Campbell, Argentine businessmen prefer the domestic market, reported the 8 May Buenos Aires LA NACION. In response to repeated criticism with regard to the slow growth of Argentine exports, Campbell explained that the trade balance is not meaningful unless it reflects permanent links that help sustain growth. "If sales are not sustainable over time, businesses, and therefore the economy, will most likely swing

back and forth between export production and production directed at the domestic market." He said that one of the difficulties of boosting exports is that production aimed at the domestic market is "still more profitable." One of the challenges facing Argentina, he added, is to reach a point at which it makes no difference to businesses whether they sell to the domestic market or abroad. Campbell concluded that Argentina needs to develop an "export culture" that will contribute to "breaking through [Argentina's] isolation from the rest of the world."

Bolivia

Drug Enforcement Force Destroys Huge Cocaine Laboratory

PY1606171694

[Editorial Report] Santa Cruz de la Sierra EL MUNDO in Spanish on 3 June, page 13, carries a 650-word report by Roberto Mendez on the dismantling of a cocaine laboratory, capable of producing 600 kg of cocaine per month, near Puerto Pacheco by members of the Special Antinarcotics Force, FELCN. The laboratory was found on 1 June in an inaccessible area between two branches of the Grande River. It had separate areas to produce and pack cocaine. In one area the drug enforcement force found 12 barrels, each containing 200 liters of ether and another 10 barrels of acetone. FELCN commander Colonel Hector Frias said nobody was arrested because the traffickers fled after being alerted by a lookout who used a communications system.

Brazil

Franco Accompanies Nephew's Body From Cartagena Summit, Looks 'Depressed'

PY1606144294 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1152 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro, 16 Jun (AE)—The plane carrying President Itamar Franco and the body of his nephew Ariosto Carlos Borges Franco—who died of a heart attack early on 15 June—from Cartagena, Colombia, landed at the Galeao air base at 0045 today. Franco then took part in a motorcade accompanying the fire truck that carried the body of his nephew to the Sao Joao Batista Cemetery, in Botafogo, in the southern part of the city of Rio de Janeiro. [passage omitted]

At 0250, looking very depressed, Franco left the cemetery for the Gloria Hotel, where he was going to rest. [passage omitted]

Finance Minister: No Possibility of Minimum Wage Increase

PY1606204294 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2059 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 15 Jun (AE)—Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero today discarded any possibility of increasing the minimum wage. He said Congress has a solution to the readjustment. Ricupero pointed out: "Unfortunately the constitutional reform was not concluded and the federal government has no way to modify what is established in the Constitution or in federal laws."

The minister explained that any minimum wage increase is directly conditioned to the need to dissociate the national minimum wage from the minimum pension paid by the Social Security Ministry. The government also wants a definition on the proposal that states and mayoralties of the poorest Brazilian regions be allowed to pay a different minimum wage. The two modifications should have been approved during the constitutional reform because the 1988 Constitution establishes that the smallest pension paid by the Social Security Ministry must equal one minimum wage. [passage omitted]

Radio, Television Stations' Ownership Described

PY1606153094 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Jun 94 Section 1 p 17

[Article by reporter Elvira Lobato]

[Text] The Communications Ministry records of radio and television station shareholders show that the Brazilian market has a great radio broadcasting empire headed by the family of businessman Roberto Marinho.

The listing of franchises recorded at the Communications Ministry shows that the Marinho family has the largest number of main stations in markets where the purchasing power is greatest.

The Marinho family has stations in Brasilia, Recife, and Rio de Janeiro. It has four of its own and two in partnership in the state of Sao Paulo; two of its own and one in partnership in Minas Gerais; and four more in partnership in Parana State.

The SBT (Brazilian Television System) of the Silvio Santos group has nine television stations in the name of companies that belong to the Abravanel family (Abravanel is the surname of Silvio Santos).

The group has six franchises in the southeastern region (four in Sao Paulo and two in Rio de Janeiro), one in Rio Grande do Sul, one in Brasilia, and another in Para.

The Saad family, which owns the Bandeirantes network, has four television franchises in the state of Sao Paulo, and one in each of the following capitals: Curitiba, Brasilia, Belo Horizonte, Rio de Janeiro, and Salvador.

The Saad and Sirotsky families hold the largest number of radio stations; each own 21 stations.

The Manchete group, according to Communications Ministry records, has three stations in the southeastern region (Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, and Rio de Janeiro) and two in the northeast: Fortaleza and Recife.

According to a survey conducted by Intermeios (of the magazine MEIO & MENSAGEM [MEDIA AND MESSAGE]), the amount collected from advertisements by television stations last year was approximately $1.3 billion, while the amount collected by radios was approximately $100 million.

The market estimate is that Globo and its affiliated members collect more than 60 percent of the money obtained from television adverstisements, while SBT and its affiliated members receive around 20 percent.

The strongest radio broadcasting groups in the country are affiliated with Rede Globo, as are the stations belonging to the most influential political leaders, which increases Roberto Marinho's political power.

In the southern part of the country the market is dominated by the Sirotsky family, owner of the RBS [Rede Brasiliera do Sul] network, affiliated with Globo. Members of the family have 10 television franchises in Rio Grande do Sul (plus two under its administration by commercial agreement), and three in Santa Catarina.

In addition to the south, the Sirotsky family also appears as shareholders of one station of Itapemirim television, in Cachoeiro do Itapemirim. The shareholder of this company is the Gazeta group from Espiritu Santo, which is also affiliated with Globo.

In the northern region, the Amazonas Radio and Television group, which belongs to the Daou family, has main stations—affiliated with Globo—in Roraima, Rondonia, Acre, Amapa, and Amazonas. It is the strongest group in the region.

In the central west, the two strongest groups—the Camara family in Goias and Tocantins, and the Zahran family (Mato Grosso do Sul and Mato Grosso)—are also affiliated with Globo. The Camara family has seven television and 12 radio franchises, while the Zahran family has four television and one radio franchise.

In the northeast, the only group that has franchises in more than one state is the Jereissati family (Verdes Mares group): two radio and one television station in Ceara (affiliated with Globo), one radio station in Rio de Janeiro, and another in Alagoas.

The strongest local groups in the largest northeastern states are linked to politicians.

In Bahia, Federal Deputy Pedro Irujo Yaniz (PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party]) has two television franchises (affiliated with the SBT) and four radio stations. His son Luiz Pedro Irujo is a partner of the Marinho family in two Globo radios in the state.

The main Bahia State television station affiliated with Globo is TV Bahia, which has among its shareholders federal Deputy Luiz Eduardo Magalhaes (PFL [Liberal Front Party]), son of former Communications Minister and former Governor Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, and Cesar Mata Pires, Carlos Magalhaes' son-in-law.

In Sergipe, the family of Senator Albano Franco (PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party]) makes up the strongest radio broadcasting group: It has two television stations (one affiliated with Globo and another with SBT), and three radio franchises.

In Alagoas and in Maranhao, the stations affiliated with Globo belong to the families of two former presidents of the Republic.

In Maranhao, TV Mirante, affiliated with Globo, is listed as being under the name of Jose Sarney's sons (1985-90), who also own four radio stations.

Former President Fernando Collor de Mello (1990-92) is among the shareholders of Gazeta TV, affiliated with Globo, in Alagoas.

In Rio Grande do Norte, former Regional Intergration Minister Aluizio Alves is among the main partners of TV Cabugi, affiliated with Globo.

Politicians' Radio, TV Stations Listed

PY1606162694 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Jun 94 Section 1 p 16

["Main politicians (and their relatives) who are radio and television station partners"]

[Text]

Former Presidents

Jose Sarney
(PMDB) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party]
1985-1990
Maranhao
Television: TV Mirante (channel 10), affiliated with Globo
Radio stations: Caxias (OM) [medium wave], Pinheiro (OM), Sao Luiz (FM), and Timon (OM)
Fernando Collor de Mello
(PRN) [National Reconstruction Party]
1990-92
Alagoas
Television: TV Gazeta de Alagoas (channel 7), affiliated with Globo
Radio stations: Arapiraca (FM), Maceio (OM), Maceio (FM)

Ministers

Regional Integration
Aluizio Alves
(PMDB-RN) [PMDB-Rio Grande do Norte]
Television: TV Cabugi (channel 11), affiliated with Globo
Radio stations: Mossoro (OM), Natal (OM)

Former Ministers

Jose Eduardo de Andrade Vieira
(PTB-PR) [Brazilian Labor Party-Parana]
Industry, Commerce, and Tourism (1992-94)

Television: TV Londrina (channel 13), not installed
Radio stations: Arapoti (OM), Londrina (OM), Londrina (FM)
Antonio Carlos Magalhaes
(PFL-BA) [Liberal Front Party-Bahia]
Communications Minister (1985-91)
Television: TV Bahia (channel 11), affiliated with Globo
President of the Chamber of Deputies
Inocencio de Oliveira
(PFL)
Television: TV Asa Branca (channel 4), affiliated with Globo
Radio stations: Afogados do Ingazeira (FM), Serra Talhada (OM), Serra Talhada (FM)

Governors

Joao Alves Filho
(PFL-SE) [PFL-Sergipe]
Television: TV Aracaju (channel 13), affiliated with Manchete
Radio stations: Propia (FM), Aracaju (FM), Aracaju (OM)
Carlos Santos
(PP-PA) [Popular Party-Para]
Television: TV Marajoara (channel 10), not yet installed
TV Sistema Clube do Para (channel 2), not yet installed
Radio stations: Belem (FM), Belem (OT) [tropical wave], Belem (OM)
Cicero Lucena
(PMDB-PB) [PMDB-Paraiba]
Radio stations: Joao Pessoa (OM)
Geraldo Bulhoes
(PSC-AL) [Social Christian Party-Alagoas]
Radio stations: Maceio (FM), Arapiraca (OM), Rio Largo (OM), Santana do Ipanema (OM)
Jose Ribamar Fiquene
(PFL-MA) [PFL-Maranhao]
Television: TV Curima (channel 7), affiliated with SBT [Brazilian Television System]
Radio stations: Imperatriz (FM)

Former Governors

Orestes Quercia
(PMDB-SP) [PMDB-Sao Paulo]
Television: TV Princesa D'Oeste (Campinas channel 6), affiliated with SBT
TV do Povo (Santos channel 12), affiliated with SBT
Radio stations: Campinas (OM), Campinas (FM), Sao Paulo (FM), Sorocaba (FM)
Jose Agripino Maia
(PFL-RN)
Television: TV Tropical (channel 8), affiliated with Manchete
Radio stations: Currais Novos (OM), Mossoro (OM), Natal (FM)
Jader Barbalho
(PMDB-PA)
Television: TV RBA (channel 13), affiliated with Manchete
TV Marajoara (channel 10), not yet installed
TV Sistema Clube (channel 2), not yet installed
Radio stations: SNC Maraba (FM), SNC Maraba (OM), Carajas (FM), Belem (FM), Radio Clube (OT), Clube (OM)
Edison Lobao
(PFL-MA)
Radio stations: Barra do Corda (OM) and Imperatriz (FM)

Senators

Albano Franco
(PSDB-SE) [Brazilian Social Democracy Party-SE)
Television: TV Sergipe (channel 4), affiliated with Globo
TV Atalaia (channel 8), affiliated with SBT
Radio Stations: Atalaia (OM), Sergipe (FM), Atalaia (FM), Simao Dias (OM)
Odacir Soares
(PFL-RO) [PFL-Rondonia]
Television: TV Porto Velho (channel 13), affiliated with Bandeirantes
Radio stations: Cacoal (OM), Pimenta Bueno (OM), Porto Velho (FM), Presidente Medici (FM), Rolim Moura (FM), Ouro Preto do Oeste (FM)
Julio Campos
(PFL-MT) [PFL-Mato Grosso]
Television: TV Rondon (channel 8), affiliated with Bandeirantes
Radio e TV Brasil (channel 8), affiliated with Bandeirantes
Radio stations: Varzea Grande (OM), Varzea Grande (FM), Diamantino (OM)
Hugo Napoleao
(PFL-PI) [PFL-Piaui]
Radio stations: Poty Teresina (OM), Poty (FM)
Mansueto de Lavor
(PMDB-PE) [PMDB-Pernambuco]
Radio station: Salgueiro (OM)
Gilberto Miranda Batista
(PMDB-AM) [PMDB-Amazonas]
Television: TV Rio Negro (channel 13), affiliated with Bandeirantes

Court Upholds Law Banning Campaign Donations From Unions

PY1606205094 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Report by Salete Sobreira]

[Text] The Federal Supreme Court [STF] has upheld a legal provision that prohibits both political parties and candidates from accepting donations for electoral campaigning from trade unions and similar organizations.

Paragraph 6 of Article 45 of the law prohibits candidates and parties from receiving, whether directly or indirectly, any donation in money or in any other form that could be translated into money—including any kind of advertisement—from unions or similar organizations.

By a vote of six to three, the STF thus turned down a petition filed by the Workers Party to have the above law declared unconstitutional. Justice Sepulveda Pertence, who heard the case, voted with the minority. He believes that unlike unions, associations could make donations because they do not collect mandatory dues and contributions from their members.

Justice Neri da Silveira, who voted down the PT petition, said that the ban also affects associations, in order to prevent powerful economic organizations from committing excesses. The STF has ruled that the law will stand, but that it will be incumbent upon the Superior Electoral Court to rule on the case of PT presidential candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who is facing charges for having used a sound truck from the metalworkers union of the ABC region [Sao Paulo industrial belt] in his electoral campaign.

Chile

Lautaro Movement Leaders Arrested in Police Operation

PY1606165494 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] For years the Investigative Police intelligence brigade has been dogging the steps of the Lautaro Group leaders. Investigative Police detectives arrested Pablo David Contreras Olivos, aka Jose Luis or Joam, yesterday in the vicinity of the Plaza Italia. Contreras Olivos, who has been identified as the current number two Lautaro Group leader, was in charge of the group's military structure. He was arrested along with Maria Angelica Medina Soto, aka La Cuca. She led the MAPU-Lautaro [United Popular Action Movement, Lautaro Group].

Through these arrests the police were able to establish that Guillermo Ossandon was in Cartagena, where he had been residing for some time. The police arrested Ossandon in a telephone booth in Cartagena. He did not offer any resistance. Along with Ossandon, the police also arrested his companions Sandra del Carmen Ramirez Barahona, and Flor Ines Alcallaga Cepeda.

[Begin Investigative Police Public Relations Chief Luis Cariz recording] All the investigations leading to the arrest of these people were conducted on the basis of a decree issued by Judge Dreiser, who has already been duly informed. We also asked Judge Dreiser to authorize an extension of the detention period in Investigative Police barracks for up to 10 days.

We are now proceeding to compare the existing evidence with their testimony, so as to establish their involvement in the numerous crimes with which they have been charged. [end recording]

The government praised the Investigative Police for their work, and commended the successful investigation that led to breaking up the guerrilla group.

[Begin Interior Ministry Under Secretary Belisario Velasco recording] During the operations officials seized the following guns: one pistol, four revolvers, nine sawed-off Tamara shotguns, and two double barrel shotguns.

We must also praise the Investigative Police intelligence brigade's professionalism in planning and conducting this operation. We must also praise them for the fact that no one was injured.

As is well known, in the last couple of years the police force has been increasingly coordinating its actions to effectively comply with their role as established in the Constitution. [end recording]

Guillermo Enrique Ossandon Canas, alias Diego Carvajal, established the Lautaro Youth Movement in 1983. With a dissident MAPU group Ossandon was able to establish an organization that later developed into the Lautaro Rebel and Popular Front [FRPL] Forces. Since then homicides, bomb attacks, bank holdups, and armed propaganda actions increased considerably in Chile.

FRPL forces first centered their actions in the southern region of Santiago. Later they expanded their operations to other regions. A few years ago the police arrested some FRPL leaders. On one occasion the police almost arrested Ossandon, but he was able to escape. In view of this the Investigative Police special corps took action only after the entire operation had been secured. They decided nevertheless to delay the operation so as not to allow Ossandon to escape in the dark.

The Lautaro Movement leaders were brought in from the coast aboard an airplane. They are currently under arrest at a Santiago Investigative Police barracks.

Fearing extremist reprisals, the Investigative Police have reinforced the guards throughout its units. Moreover, personnel from several police precincts will take turns watching the Lautaro Movement leaders.

The Interior Ministry will submit an injunction against the five arrested Lautaro Movement members, who have been charged with terrorist actions. In the next few days they will be placed at the disposal of Judge Arnoldo Dreiser, who is in charge of investigating the crimes perpetrated by the Lautaro Group crimes.

Further on Acquittal of General Stange, Others

PY1606183394 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Judge Alfredo Pfeiffer has acquitted [Carabineros Director] General Rodolfo Stange and other high-ranking retired Carabineros officers of the charge of nonfulfillment of military duties in the case involving the three slain Communist leaders [Manuel Parada, Santiago Nattino, and Manuel Guerrero, who died with cut throats]. The resolution was taken this afternoon, and the case is therefore dismissed.

Judge Pfeiffer had instituted proceedings following charges made by Judge Milton Juica in passing judgment on the murder of the Communist leaders. Gen. Stange and other members of the top echelon of Carabineros were among those accused of nonfulfillment of military duties. The Military Court appointed Judge Pfeiffer to conduct the inquest. Gen. Stange took a leave of absence and was given other tasks during the proceedings. Following the ruling by the Military Court, which confirmed the decision not to prosecute Gen. Stange, Judge Pfeiffer dismissed the case and acquitted all the high-ranking Carabineros officers against whom Judge Juica had brought charges.

Colombia

De Greiff Defends Reduced Sentences for Drug Traffickers

PA1706024094 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 15 Jun 94

[From the "National Newscast"]

[Text] A meeting is taking place at this time in Santa Fe de Bogota to discuss the Penal Code. Participating in the meeting are Prosecutor General Gustavo de Greiff, Justice Minister Andres Gonzalez, and Attorney General Carlos Gustavo Arrieta.

Prosecutor General de Greiff has reappeared with firm steps. This time, speaking to Attorney General Arrieta, Justice Minister Gonzalez, and hundreds of agents of the Attorney General's Office, he defended the benefits of the law on surrender and reduction of penalties in Colombia, and questioned the double standards of the United States on the subject.

[Begin de Greiff recording] The United States criticizes Colombia because supposedly we have very mild sentences against drug traffickers, especially when they surrender to justice. They claim that the United States has the right system, which consists of very tough sentences. Those high sentences are applied to some Colombians, but I do not know of any case in which U.S. drug traffickers have given life sentences. [end recording]

De Greiff also referred to the possible surrender of Cali Cartel leaders.

[Begin de Greiff recording] I believe that would be their best choice because otherwise, the Prosecutor General's Office will continue its policy of pursuing them. [end recording]

With regard to the scandalous espionage case at the residence of Presidential Candidate Ernesto Samper, de Greiff said that espionage is a crime, and therefore those reports will be investigated.

De Greiff also proposed a legislative reform to monitor arrests in Colombia.

National Registrar Discusses Voting Details

PA1606205394 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Telephone interview with National Registrar Luis Camilo Osorio in Santa Fe de Bogota by station announcer Dario Arizmendi and an unidentified reporter in Emisoras Caracol's Santa Fe de Bogota studios—live]

[Text] [Arizmendi] We have National Registrar Dr. Luis Camilo Osorio with us this morning. There are 60 hours before the runoff election. Good morning, Mr. Registrar.

[Osorio] Good morning, Dario.

[Arizmendi] What will happen with the voters who have been affected by the earthquake and the mudslide in Cauca and Huila Departments?

[Osorio] At this time, Dario, we are in the process of collecting information on people who lost their personal identity papers during the tragedy. The information I have is not up-to-date. As of yesterday, however, we had received approximately 400 identity card replacement requests in Huila and Cauca. We plan to send registrars to places where people have been relocated so these people can vote. Registrars will use census forms. We will replace the relocated people's identity cards and tell them where they can vote.

[Arizmendi] Approximately 18,000 people have been relocated, many of whom have their identity cards. Can these people vote?

[Osorio] Yes, but the figures we have are much smaller. We estimate that 2,000 voters have been relocated. We are providing local registrars with additional census lists so the people can vote where they are.

[Arizmendi] People have begun to wonder: The Registrar's Office was so efficient during the first round that results were released before 2300 local, at least in 90 percent of the voting sites. What will happen next Sunday? Can we expect to have the name of the president-elect by 2000?

[Osorio] Yes, we will do it again, with the possible exception of two or three points. I have headed the Registrar's Office on three previous occasions, in 1991, 1992, and the first Congress elections in 1994.

[Arizmendi] So this election will set a record for the Office.

[Osorio] We will duplicate what we did during the first round of elections.

[Arizmendi] Do you think we will know who is ahead in the election by approximately 2100 local time?

[Osorio] It will depend on the relative position of the candidates, Dario. As you know, there is a virtual tie between the leading candidates, according to opinion polls.

[Arizmendi] At what time do you expect to release the first bulletin?

[Osorio] Well, it is not the first one that counts but the last one. Anyway, we think there must be a very significant margin of difference between the two. We estimate we will be able to release the first bulletin by the same time we released the first one during the first round, 1640 local time.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Registrar, what can you tell us about the people in the eastern flatlands, in southeastern Meta and Guaviare Departments, who are isolated because of flooded rivers?

[Osorio] Well, Dario, so far it has been unnecessary to relocate any voting sites. Some damaged installations will be repaired, but we will have no relocations of people here as happened in some Huila and Cauca municipalities.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Registrar, we continue to receive calls from many people who did not vote in the 1986 and 1990 elections but who would like to vote in this runoff election. They ask us why they cannot vote, why their identity cards, if they failed to be registered, are not in the lists of the so-called line-up voting sites?

[Osorio] As we have explained before, the citizens who have not voted on previous occasions can do so now provided they are included on the list of persons who applied for their identity cards as of March 1988 when, by legal provision—this is not a provision of the Registrar's Office or an administrative act apart from the state's sovereign willingness expressed through the Congress—those persons were automatically included in the electoral counts. In each municipality, voting sites are prepared for these citizens to vote. Only these citizens can vote at these sites. The rest of the citizens must have been properly registered at the sites where they have chosen to vote. Unfortunately, whoever has not been registered and has not applied for his or her identity card after March 1988 is not included in the census and consequently will not be permitted to vote.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Registrar, will there be more or less than 5.8 million votes, the number of people who voted in the first round?

[Osorio] Dario, we hope there will be more than 6 million votes.

[Arizmendi] [Words indistinct]

[Osorio] I beg your pardon? Oh yes, although there will be a soccer championship, there will be several matches. If people take advantage of the few working hours to find out where their voting sites are located, they can do their duty as citizens by casting their votes and still watch the soccer matches. For this reason, I think there will be more than 6 million votes.

Roundup of Electoral Developments

PA1606185594

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on developments related to the presidential election runoff scheduled for 19 June.

Conservative Party candidate Andres Pastrana has accused President Gaviria of breaking the principles that require his impartiality in electoral matters, asserting that Gaviria has clearly acted to expressly promote the candidacy of Liberal Party candidate Ernesto Samper. Pastrana said: "The political guarantees necessary for this campaign to take place under conditions of equality and impartiality do not exist." (Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Jun 94 p 6A)

Ernesto Samper asked former Envigado Mayor Jorge Meza, who faces a scandal as a result of presumed links with drug traffickers, to abstain from participating in campaign activities to promote his candidacy. Samper welcomed a statement by Bishops Conference President Pedro Rubiano, who said that the Catholic Church does not favor any candidate. He added that he "did not deem appropriate the strategy used by the other candidate to establish religious differences among Colombians." (Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Jun 94 p 6A)

On 9 June, Ernesto Samper said that Pastrana has adopted an unnecessarily aggressive and intolerant position that does not benefit Colombian democracy. According to Samper, Pastrana "is thoroughly exploiting" the media "his family owns" to attack him politically and personally. President Cesar Gaviria yesterday told Pastrana that no actions by his government have sought to favor, openly or tacitly, any of the presidential candidates or to influence the current electoral contest. (Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Jun 94 p 6A)

Ernesto Samper and vice presidential running mate Humberto de la Calle rejected on 10 June what they called a "dirty war" on the part of Andres Pastrana, whom they accused of seeking to provoke a "religious clash" in the country. During a news conference, he noted that "Pastrana's campaign, by resorting to the old slander policy, has spread accusations of all types that have made some prelates disregard the instructions made at the Bishops Conference." (Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Jun 94 p 7A)

According to two polling companies cited by local media, Pastrana appears to be the favorite to win the 19 June elections. The figures created confusion among voters, because they contrast with the results obtained during the 29 May elections when Samper beat Pastrana by a narrow margin. (Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1825 GMT 11 Jun 94)

On 10 June, a telephone tap was discovered in Ernesto Samper's office. Samper said: "This is an unprecedented action, and whoever did it is a scoundrel." (Santa Fe de

Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Jun 94)

Regarding the alleged telephone spying against Samper, Pastrana said: "That is not my style nor that of my campaign. I believe that the security organizations must clear up this situation and that, if there are any accusations, they must be made through the pertinent organizations." (Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 94)

Ernesto Samper ended campaign activities today to begin the last week of meetings with fellow Liberal leaders. Samper called attacks by Monsignor Dario Castrillon unfair, adding: "Liberals are also Catholics, and we will not accept having a conscientious veto among Colombians, because of an act of religious fanaticism inspired by Pastrana's campaign." Pastrana is also preparing to close the last week of his campaign. Pastrana stated: "I seek to govern for all Colombians, not just for a minority." (Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Jun 94)

During the weekend of 11 June Monsignor Dario Castrillon rejected Samper's alliance with Protestant groups and asked Catholic Liberals not to vote for Samper because, according to him, Samper promotes abortion and denies the rights of most Catholics. Pastrana denied any favoritism by the Church and said: "Colombians do not want a candidate such as Samper, who encourages violence. Colombians are weary of violence; we want peace. Nobody is stirring any clashes. Samper is the only one who has invented this war." Samper's campaign denied 14 June that their presidential program includes promoting abortion or denying the rights of Catholics. (Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jun 94)

During an interview, Samper said he believes Pastrana does not have enough political experience because he has not occupied a post at the national level. He added: "I am willing to give Pastrana a ministry so that he may complete his training." The country wants changes and new spaces, which we are willing to open. The new country is the one that supports me, the blacks, Indians, independent sectors, and demobilized guerrillas, Samper concluded. (Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Jun 94)

Ecuador

President Appoints New Police Commander General

PA1606132394 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 94

[From "The Voz Andes Newscast"]

[Text] President Sixto Duran-Ballen has appointed Miguel Rosero Barba to be the new national police commander general. One of the new commander general's main tasks will be to strengthen ties with the media through open-door policies and by the necessary creation of a public relations division that will answer journalists' questions.

The new police commander general, Manuel Rosero, believes having the people's trust and confidence is an important condition for successful police work.

Roundup of Economic Developments

PA1606132594

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on economic developments monitored through 15 June.

The Central Bank of Ecuador, BCE, has issued its monthly report for March 1994. It states the Ecuadoran trade balance recorded a surplus of $104 million, a 41.3-percent increase over the same month last year. Exports totaled $250 million, and imports reached $146 million. Exports for the quarter were 4.6 percent less, however, than in 1993, $688.8 million versus $722.4 million. Oil was, as usual, the major export item, with sales totaling more than $264 million for 20.3 million barrels. Exports of items other than petroleum produced $294.5 million during the quarter, approximately $100 million less than the first quarter of 1993. Nevertheless, Jose Riofrio, marketing manager for the National Banana Plan (Programa Nacional del Banano), said "the effects of the European Union import restrictions have not yet been felt in Ecuador." Shrimp sales dropped 10.6 percent, while coffee rose from $13 million to $21 million. (Madrid EFE in Spanish 0023 GMT 12 June 94)

On 7 June, Ecuadoran President Sixto Duran-Ballen announced the response to the bid for oil exploitation rights "is the best proof the country has regained its prestige and confidence abroad." He announced 28 firms, grouped into 13 consortiums, participated in the bid. There are 17 well sites in six sectors of the Amazon region that are expected to require an overall investment of $141.7 million. The winners are Amoco-Mobil, Triton, Orix, City-Ramrod, and the Ecuadoran consortium Tripetrol. Francisco Acosta, energy and mines minister, has said the best guarantee for the investors "is the absolute honesty of the bid process." Contracts will be signed in November, and work is expected to begin in 1995. (Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0014 GMT 8 June 94)

Foreign currency reserves rose 3.3 percent in May, totaling $1.3 million. A BCE spokesperson has said this figure is $43 million higher than in April. The increase "comes from higher prices for Ecuadoran petroleum on the international market." The official added that "despite the improved conditions abroad, gasoline prices continue to rise in Ecuador." (Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 June 94)

Financial expert Luis Onofa, in an article for Quito's daily newspaper HOY, has said Ecuador's foreign debt has doubled in 12 years. This, he said, "demonstrates

that despite renegotiation efforts, liabilities continue to pierce the heart of the economy, halting all growth." Ecuador's debt was $6.63 billion in 1982, and it is $12.96 billion now. Previous administrations were unable to reach any favorable agreements with the international financial institutions, private banks, or the Paris Club. Sixto Duran-Ballen's administration has "managed to restructure the debt," however. Capital will be paid in 30 years with a 45-percent discount, while overdue interest will be paid in 20 years on good terms and a 10-year grace period. (Paris AFP in Spanish 1607 GMT 7 June 94)

Peru

Fujimori Returns, Says Cuba Poses No Threat

PY1606162094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1342 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Lima, 16 Jun (EFE)—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori said today in Lima that Cuba does not pose a threat to the Americas, and that an embargo against Cuba or against any other country in the world is therefore unjustified.

Fujimori made this statement after his return from Colombia, where he attended the Fourth Ibero-American Summit in Cartagena on 14 and 15 June.

Fujimori, who visited China and Japan before his visit to Colombia, said that what Latin America is currently spending on weapons should be invested in development.

Commenting on Peruvian domestic policy and former President Alan Garcia, who has been in asylum in Colombia since June 1992, Fujimori said: "I cannot accept an agreement with or even negotiate with a person who destroyed the country."

Recently there has been conjecture about a possible rapprochement between the government and the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), the party led by Alan Garcia, who ruled Peru from 1985 to 1990.

Perez de Cuellar Rejects Charges by Fujimori

PY1606220994 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Former UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said that when he returns to Lima he will announce whether he will run for president of the Republic. In an exclusive interview with Radio Programas del Peru, Perez de Cuellar said he will arrive in Peru at the end of July or beginning of August.

[Begin recording] [Perez de Cuellar] You probably remember that as the UN secretary general I traveled to Lima during the months of July and December. This year I will do the same. I will probably arrive in Lima toward the end of July or beginning of August and I will remain there for the time necessary.

[Unidentified reporter] Will you announce your candidacy while you are in Lima?

[Perez de Cuellar] I believe it would be the correct thing to do should I decide to run for the presidency. [end recording]

Perez de Cuellar said that no one, not even the president of the Republic, can tell him that he does not know Peru.

[Begin Perez de Cuellar recording] The current president has been in office for only four years and I have been serving Peru for more than 40 years. The ratio is 10 to 1. Thus, I should not take lessons from anyone concerning the country's interests. I have tried to give prestige to the country. It is not fair to say that I do not know Peru. I repeat, from every country in the world I have always followed very closely my country's problems and I will not allow anyone, not even the president of the Republic, to say I am unaware of Peruvian problems. [end recording]

Uruguay

Menem, Wasmosy, Lacalle Meet on Regional Integration

PY1706015494 Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish 11 Jun 94 p 6

[All quotation marks as published]

[Text] Taranco Palace was the seat of the meeting between the Argentine, Paraguayan, and Uruguayan presidents in which the bid for dredging the Martin Garcia channel [in the River Plate] was awarded. The chiefs of state reaffirmed the intent and need for a regional integration system, and the importance this system has for the area's countries, and to which Chile's desire to become a member of Mercosur [Common Market of the South] must be added.

Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle firmly pointed out the common projects the country has with Argentina and the fact that they have a solid footing, emphasizing the dredging of the Martin Garcia and Mitre channels. Lacalle explained the current stage in which the two countries now are permanently sharing the costs and maintenance of the common projects. He added that the [Paraguay- Parana Rivers] waterway, the road network, and the Colonia [Uruguay]-Buenos Aires bridge are projects that ratify the confidence and overall actions that go beyond governments, and he termed these initiatives a "positive vision of goodwill with an eye on regional integration."

Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy termed the meeting a historic event, and he highlighted the fact that the Argentine and Uruguayan presidents are undertaking the dredging of Martin Garcia channel, which is something that marks the intention of uniting, of integrating the region's countries, and he pointed out Mercosur as a sign of the desire to integrate. Wasmosy indicated that

his country cannot remain outside this effort because Paraguay needs a sea outlet with lower freight costs in order to become more competitive in international markets. He also referred to the importance of the waterway that will join the region's five countries.

Argentine President Carlos Menem emphasized the integration process, indicating that these three brother countries are walking a common path that is leading them to regional integration. He referred to the River Plate Treaty and the Maritime Front signed 21 years ago by then-Presidents Juan Maria Bordaberry and General Juan Domingo Peron, pointing out that even at that time Peron spoke about regional integration, stressing that countries must be "united, not dominated." Menem said trade "is the soul of nations," indicating that the river projects are very important and help link countries. He announced that within a few days that Salto Grande [hydroelectric project on the Uruguay River] will be put into operation with Paraguay's Asilerta Dam [as published] and thus integrate it with the free trade zone as its central objective. Menem also indicated that the Chilean Government had submitted a note in which it indicates that it has the intention of joining Mercosur, in other words, expressing its concern regarding an expansion of the integration spectrum.

Lacalle said that for Uruguay this treaty means the "definite opening of its river ports to international trade with an outlet to the Atlantic that has a depth of 32 feet." He added that the treaty also means that the ports of Nueva Palmira and Montevideo will be given a new life, and the same will apply to all the ports within the basins of the Paraguay, Parana, and Uruguay Rivers. Lacalle said: "This must be complemented with the importance of the waterway—3,000 km of rivers—that has a common legal statute that was ironed out by five nations and will allow the products of Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, southern Brazil, and Uruguay to reach the Atlantic, and thus the world."

The Uruguayan president believes it "is an undertaking that will be written into history as one of the most truly influential and real endeavors of our countries."

Menem said the documents' signing means "the end of a process that began more than 20 years ago with the signing of the River Plate Treaty on 19 November 1973. This cycle began at that time and it concludes with the documents that were signed today that will make the Parana River, the Martin Garcia channel, and, of course, the River Plate navigable."

Referring to reports about alleged threats received by Argentine Ambassador to Uruguay Alicia Martinez Rios, Menem said: "All of us involved in the world of politics receive threats. Moreover, he added that he had to acknowledge that Martinez Rios has a lot of courage and is very enterprising. And I also must acknowledge that in a large measure it is thanks to her and her always-positive attitude that this document has been signed."

On leaving Taranco Palace, the three presidents chatted with the media.

Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy gave his opinion on the ceremony that had just concluded. He said: "Both for Bolivia and Paraguay, in their role as landlocked countries, these documents that were signed today (yesterday) basically mean that we have an outlet to the Atlantic through two very important corridors."

"I would like this project, which has concluded happily today, to be joined with another outlet to the Atlantic that is located just a little more to the north: the port of Pederneira [Brazil] "so the Southern Cone countries will really become integrated when the Itaipu Dam is completed and inter-river navigation begins."

Channel Dredging Notes Signed With Argentina

PY1606232394 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 11 Jun 94 p 1

[Text] The two River Plate countries confirmed their geopolitical alliance on 10 June by signing notes on work to be carried out in the Martin Garcia channel, one of the two Parana River passageways to the Atlantic Ocean.

The work involves the Martin Garcia channel's dredging, buoying, and subsequent maintenance. The notes commit Argentina and Uruguay to sharing equally a $107 million payment to open the channel.

The governments still have two years to resolve their share percentages of future maintenance costs, which unofficially are estimated at $9 million.

For almost three years, a strong "lobby" [preceding word in English] of Argentine grain growers pressed for Argentina not to fulfill its obligations with Uruguay concerning the Martin Garcia channel and finance work in the Emilio Mitre channel, the other Parana River passageway.

Argentina's noncompliance would have been tantamount to disregarding the River Plate Treaty—signed by [former Argentine President] Juan Domingo Peron and [former Uruguayan President] Juan Maria Bordaberry in November 1973—on the management of the estuary and our country's river border.

In a speech during the signing of the notes, President Carlos Menem evoked Juan Domingo Peron's figure as a champion of American integration and promoter of the 10 June action.

For his part, President Lacalle stressed that the Martin Garcia channel work will allow linking Uruguay River ports with the rest of the world, and the river will be 32 feet deep. The work also will allow Nueva Palmira to become the waterway's entry port, linking the Atlantic Ocean with our continent's central region.

Incidentally, Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy, who is interested in the waterway's future and was

invited to the notes' signing ceremony, arrived in our country. The Uruguayan Government also invited three former [Uruguayan] presidents, Washington Beltran, Jorge Pacheco, and Julio Sanguinetti, to witness the ceremony and confirm that the signed notes are part of the state's foreign policy.

Editorial Praises River Plate Agreements

PY1606234394 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 10 Jun 94 p 6

[Editorial: "A Historic Agreement"]

[Text] Relations between states, just as friendship between common mortals, require constant attention, repair, and maintenance, particularly in the case of neighboring countries such as Argentina and Uruguay. The two countries are located in the vast geopolitical space created by the River Plate basin, which has a history that in many aspects unites them and in other cases separates them, giving each country its own and distinct personality. However, they also have shared economic interests that soon will materialize in Mercosur [Common Market of the South].

As is common in all families, relations between the two nations have had their ups and downs. But if we have to make a list of elements that have not contributed to our family's harmony, it is probable that we will make a rather short list and include mostly minor items and some prejudices, which are unjustified but inevitable in peoples' relations. An outstanding place in the list probably will be occupied by the important and delicate issue of the administration and use of the River Plate. The issue is not new. It started with the Montevideo and Buenos Aires ports' rivalry during the vice royalty.

The suspicions and concerns rooted in the origins of our shared history were stirred by an extraordinary theory maintained by an Argentine foreign minister at the beginning of the century. Estanislao Zevallos maintained that Uruguay's borders were marked "by the line of the lowest River Plate tides," that is, the dry coast. We must admit, however, that such an astounding opinion never spread. This fact was confirmed with the signing of the Ramirez-Saenz Pena Protocol in January 1910. During the following decades the two countries advanced gradually and methodically, overcoming more than one political storm, toward the creation of a juridical framework for resolving pending issues constructively.

The result of these efforts was the River Plate and Maritime Front Treaty signed by Argentina and Uruguay in November 1973. It can be said that the agreement was the result of particularly favorable circumstances, but it is also true that it represented the final stage of a long and historic process of convergence. The treaty's prologue establishes that the document's main purpose is to iron out difficulties derived from "all situations lacking juridical definition on the exercise of equal rights on the River Plate."

The treaty still is criticized in both countries. Those who criticize it are increasingly fewer, however. But no one can deny that the treaty established a solid framework of principles, norms, and institutions (bilateral commissions) that have contributed to the integral use of this vast and shared river and maritime area.

There is no doubt, then, that what was agreed on by both parties in the River Plate Administrating Commission on the dredging of the Martin Garcia channel, and the upcoming meeting of Presidents Carlos Menem and Luis Alberto Lacalle to officially present the documents on conditions for bidding on the channel dredging, have a major historic, economic, and political importance. The work that will be implemented jointly by Argentina and Uruguay is not only part of one of the biggest binational projects that will be undertaken within the treaty's framework. The work also will represent a large contribution by both River Plate countries to the vast River Plate basin's development.

The future of Mercosur and the Paraguay-Parana Waterway (Puerto Caceres-Nueva Palmira) depend to a good extent on free and cheap access for maritime transport services required to link producers with their trade partners abroad. The key to the river system has always been, and will continue to be, the River Plate's navigation channels. The work also will contribute to the development of Argentine and Uruguayan ports on the Uruguay River, which are not part of the Paraguay-Parana waterway but also have great development possibilities.

The Martin Garcia channel's dredging is a job that will benefit all river system users located upriver. Uruguay is only one of them and not precisely the most important user. It also will complement other projects now in the process of implementation.

The channel dredging agreement signed between Argentina and Uruguay represents a victory for common sense and the spirit of cooperation. The two River Plate countries' governments have constructively overcome difficult obstacles and agreed in advance to a shared undertaking that will benefit their peoples in addition to all the other people living in the River Plate basin.

Senate Approves Constitutional Reform Bill

PY1606182994 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 9 Jun 94 p 1

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Senate yesterday approved a bill on constitutional reform that will be confirmed by popular decision on 28 August. The possibility of voting for one candidate nationally and for another candidate departmentally (multiparty vote system) and several provisions on departmental governments are prominent among the constitutional reform innovations.

Even though the Senate vote was unanimous, it is not clear that all parties will campaign for the "Yes" ballot.

At least two parties will not campaign for it. The Broad Front has yet to decide on this issue and the Batlleist Forum representatives pointed out that it does not support the multiparty vote system, but it does support advancing the plebiscite's date.

There were bitter arguments between the Battleism List 15 faction and the Battleist Forum, which at times jeopardized the atmosphere of political agreement that surrounded the debate and vote on the constitutional reform bill. [passage omitted]

Chamber of Deputies Approve

PY1606203994 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Excerpt] The Chamber of Deputies finally approved the constitutional reform bill this evening. The Chamber of Deputies president released a note this afternoon explaining the reasons that prompted the drafting of the current text, which gave rise to some observations by the Colorada and Batlleist Union. The bill was carried by 78 votes to one—that of Helios Sarthou of the MPP [People's Participation Movement]. The electoral court will now make arrangements for the plebiscite. [passage omitted]

Vice President Interviewed on Election

PY1606232194 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 5 Jun 94 pp 14, 15

[Unattributed interview with Vice President Gonzalo Aguirre "in the past few hours"—place not given]

[Excerpts] [EL PAIS] How will you conduct your electoral campaign?

[Aguirre] It will be based on a platform with clear and specific proposals to resolve the problems the country will face in 1995. We will not resort to personal attacks that are unworthy of the entire political system and especially of those who resort to this ignoble method. We also will not resort to deriding the ideas of our political opponents merely because we do not share all or some of their ideas. We will not even engage in unfavorably judging the national or departmental administration of other parties. It is not by monitoring the past or denying the success of former administrations—including our party's administration—that we will instill faith and optimism in the citizens.

[EL PAIS] What would be your first step if you were elected president of the Republic?

[Aguirre] I would call on the leaders of all parties, beginning with those of our own party, to form a coalition government and, if possible, a government of national unity.

[EL PAIS] What do you understand is a coalition government?

[Aguirre] It is a government formed by various parties that jointly establish the basic guidelines for the policies to be implemented, share their responsibilities, and support it, by a majority, in Congress. There is no such coalition government when these basic guidelines are exclusively established by the president of the Republic and his closest aides. There is no coalition government either when the president merely appoints citizens from other parties for both ministerial or autonomous agency posts. [passage omitted]

[EL PAIS] Do you agree with the current government's economic policy? If you were elected president, would you continue implementing the same policy?

[Aguirre] I agree with its basic guidelines, which are the following: the opening of the economy, regional economic integration, curbing inflation, and reducing the fiscal deficit. I do not share, however, a dogmatic implementation of this policy because I believe dogmatism is bad in all walks of life.

Therefore, if I were elected president, I would continue implementing these four basic guidelines, but with the flexibility required to adjust them to dynamic and changing realities. At any rate, I do not hope to conduct a government that will be a repetition of the current one.

[EL PAIS] In your opinion, what are the principal problems the next government will have to face?

[Aguirre] There are various problems like achieving conditions that will allow our producers and entrepreneurs to successfully compete within the framework of economic integration with our neighbors; implementing an effective decentralization, which will not be achieved by forming new organizations in Montevideo but by promoting new entrepreneurial projects harmoniously distributed throughout our national territory; reforming or updating our education system, adjusting it for our young people's required integration into the labor market; reforming social security, which in no way will violate the rights of existing retirees; defining the state's role and its reform so as to reduce the burden on productive activities; and—without finishing the list of issues to be resolved—implementing an agricultural, livestock, and industrial policy that will favor growth in our country's entire productive sector and create new and effective job openings. [passage omitted]

[EL PAIS] Will the constitutional reform be approved? Why are you supporting it?

[Aguirre] No doubt it will be approved. Obviously, most citizens agree with this reform. They especially support the so-called "multiparty voting" system. This is an unequivocal wish in the interior of our country. And a recent poll already indicates the resolute support of 66 percent of the voters.

As everyone knows, I am supporting this reform with profound conviction because I believe in free voting. For obvious reasons, it does not make any sense for a person

who votes for a given party's presidential candidate to not be allowed to vote, if this is the person's idea, for another party's mayoral candidate. [passage omitted]

Batllist Forum, PGP Sign Electoral Agreement

PY1706021294 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 9 Jun 94 p 10

[Text] The Batllist Forum and the Party of the Government by the People [PGP] on 8 June signed a historic programmatic and electoral agreement at the Legislative Palace's Parties Hall. List 99 leader Renan Rodriguez, whose position was never too far from the Colorado Party and who opened the round of speeches at the ceremony, said the agreement is the result of a natural operation and "the soldering process will not leave rough edges" because, as in the past, both factions will form a single political entity.

PGP leader Hugo Batlle, who spoke afterward, did not talk about a return to basics or to his Colorado Party origins. He spoke about the importance of the agreement, stressing that it was made between "two different political groups with a common past" that are and will continue to be independent from each other.

Renan Rodriguez—without hiding his satisfaction over the agreement—compared former President Julio Maria Sanguinetti and Jose Batlle y Ordonez. He said Sanguinetti was "a natural candidate for the presidency of the Republic," just as Batlle was the Colorado Party's natural leader in 1910. He mentioned the difficulties each had during their first governments and stressed that in Batlle's case the people "very much wanted him to continue his work." Rodriguez said that something similar occurs today with Sanguinetti.

Batlle, in turn, characterized the ceremony as something that could change the country's future, adding that the Batllist forum as well as the PGP have given proof of their "deep civic courage."

"We are doing what people expected us to do long ago. People wanted to see leaders with courage to break the routine, the prejudice, the past, heal the old wounds," the List 99 leader said.

"Many things that happened in the past will not occur again, and many things that never happened will start occurring now, Batlle said [no end quotation mark as published]. The phrase was received with long applause.

He said he trusted the agreement will serve to build a better country for all Uruguayans "seeking equality from the beginning."

Sanguinetti: Count the Stones.

The Batllist Forum leader [Luis Maria Sanguinetti] closed the ceremony with a speech that began with a citation from a great poet (Elliot) and was closed with a phrase that belonged to another famous artist. "We will begin by counting the stones so as to be able to finish counting the stars."

Referring to the agreement, Sanguinetti said the voices that called for it from the silent past have said: "We want unity among leaders so that unity can be possible among citizens." Sanguinetti said this was the reason he had taken "this hopeful step for unity."

"Today we have fewer rich people than during Batlle y Ordonez's times. We also have fewer poor people. But the needs and those in need have increased. A democratic society cannot accept the duality of having groups that reach modernity while other groups sink in degradation," Sanguinetti said, adding: "A country's sensitivity cannot be measured only by its respect for majorities but by its sensitivity toward minorities."

Sanguinetti said we cannot have "another irrational confrontation between the state and the market" similar to the confrontation between cities and rural areas. "The country needs of all its citizens. A modern society needs us all," the leader said.

Colorado Party Ticket Leads in Poll

PY1706021394

[Editorial Report] Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish on 5 June publishes on pages 6-7 an unattributed 2,000-word article on voting preferences for the upcoming elections. The article says the Colorado Party, which now includes the voting preferences of the Party of the Government by the People, PGP, followers who support the Julio Maria Sanguinetti-Hugo Batlle ticket, now would "receive 33 percent of votes nationwide; the Broad Front, FA, would receive 24 percent of the votes; the National Party would receive 22 percent of the votes; the dissident PGP, the Civic Union, and the Christian Democratic Party would receive 2 percent of the votes; the Green Party would receive 1 percent of the votes; other parties (including the Blue Party as well as other leftist groups not linked to the FA) would receive 2 percent of the votes; and 16 percent of the voters have not yet decided for whom they would vote."

The article adds: "The National Party, which received significant support in April, continues growing and has improved, but by only one percentage point. The Colorado Party has grown 3 percentage points compared with last month's support, probably thanks to the PGP followers who will vote for the Sanguinetti-Batlle ticket. The FA standing has remained unchanged since April."

University Students End Strike, Resume Classes

PY1606232594 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 10 Jun 94 p 1

[Excerpt] Most of the University of the Republic's nearly 60,000 students will return to classes on 13 June. But they will no longer occupy buildings or demonstrate for bigger budgets. They will come to study, if they want.

On 9 June, the four university associations decided to lift the strike that halted classes and research at the university. The strike lasted 45 days but teachers and employees continued receiving their salaries.

The strike started on 25 April. It was staged in demand of a 20 percent salary increase [for faculty members] that, according to students, was the cost of living increase last year and was what the government promised to give the faculty in April 1993.

What students finally got was a 6 percent increase through a law approved by Congress that interpreted a previous decision and that, according to the University Inter-Association, "merely corrected the illegal discrimination against the university." The students also collected 436,400 signatures in support of a plebiscite proposing a constitutional amendment to assure bigger education budgets in general. [passage omitted]

Venezuela

Minister: Coup Rumors Aimed at Creating Anxiety

PA1706044394 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Report by Vicente Briceno at the Miraflores Presidential Palace; from the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] Interior Minister Ramon Escovar Salom has asserted that the wave of rumors that has hit the country in the past days is part of a psychological war to keep Venezuelans in a state of constant anxiety. The interior minister referred to the unremitting rumors that have reappeared in the past days and added that they are meant to create a climate of uncertainty so as to inflame the people or cause a coup. Also, Defense Minister Rafael Montero Revette was called on to appear before the Congress and, during his remarks, got to the point of saying that Commander Hugo Chavez Frias was a subversive.

[Begin recording] [Escovar Salom] The number of rumors that have been circulating in the past days are part of a psychological war. Certain people have wanted to start this psychological war to keep the Venezuelans in constant anxiety. They are, however, only rumors and gossip. The government cannot respond every time a person spreads a rumor.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Escovar Salom] The Interior Ministry does have a great deal of information but I don't have any to give to you at this time.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Escovar Salom] Basically, it is only rumors, rumors, and more rumors. [end recording]

Minister Escovar Salom did not say if the government's intervention in eight banks would prompt public disorder in the country. The students did riot outside the Central Venezuelan University on Wednesday, but the minister did not give importance to those events. He said they were all street gossip which did not merit great significance. As usual, however, he promised to give reporters more details at a later date on the groups promoting the rumors to destabilize the country.

Fogade Considers Increasing Deposit Guarantees

PA1606222194 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Report by Cecilia Cayone; from the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] Noris Aguirre, president of the Deposit Guarantee and Banking Protection Fund [Fogade], has announced Fogade is considering the possibility of increasing the guarantee ceiling for depositors from 4 to 10 million bolivares.

[Begin recording] [Cayone] Noris Aguirre made this announcement after being summoned for questioning by the Senate Financial Commission. She added that a decision in this regard will be made in coming days and that Fogade's board of directors is already considering the request on the public credit law so that the Finance Ministry may obtain an approval from the Central Bank of Venezuela.

Congressional financial commissions will be able to voice their opinions once an approval is granted, and the corresponding bonds will be issued. Along this line and in light of presumed resistance by certain sectors to accept the bonds, Aguirre has said Fogade has the mechanisms to place them on the market.

[Aguirre] What I have heard is a verbal reference to a statement that anyone could have made, but that has not been the Banking Council's position. This view has not resulted from discussions, and whenever bonds are issued and placed on the market, Fogade will be able to place them through either the financial system, the Central Bank of Venezuela, or agents in the open market. We will talk with all sectors involved to implement this measure.

[Cayone] Meanwhile, Banks Superintendent Cesareo Cadenas, whom the Senate Financial Commission has also summoned, has said that as long as funds are not made available, depositors will not be paid.

[Cadenas] That matter is not for the superintendency or the Board of Interventors [word indistinct] to decide; it depends on several organizations. First, it depends on the Finance Ministry; second, the Central Bank of Venezuela; third, Congress. Interventors will be able to dispose of the funds once this is implemented. I hope that whenever they have the funds to make the payments, the programs will be ready. We will be able to announce them to the public but, rather, with the funds on hand.

[Cayone] But when will you begin to pay the accounts of the [word indistinct] banks?

[Cadenas] Once the public credit law is approved.

[Cayone] Even though Aguirre has said the possibility of increasing the guarantees for depositors is being considered, Gustavo Roosen, commissioner for financial reforms, has insisted payments will not exceed 4 million bolivares. Roosen was also summoned for questioning in Congress regarding the deposits made by the Caracas Mayoralty into Latino Bank. [end recording]

Banking Officials Express 'Amazement' at Intervention

PA1606224394 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 15 Jun 94

[Report by Zayra Pereira; from the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] In a communique issued by the National Banking Council, which met the morning of 15 June, representatives of the financial sector expressed their position on the government's abrupt decision to intervene in seven banks and one finance company. (Jose Monzi Izquierdo), National Banking Council president, read the communique:

[Begin (Monzi Izquierdo) recording] The National Banking Council and the Venezuelan Banking Association would like to clearly express our amazement on the decision to intervene and close a group of financial institutions that were receiving financial assistance from Fogade [Deposit Guarantee and Banking Protection Fund]. The government has adopted that decision without notifying the financial sector, and that is why we have been unable to understand the logic behind such a measure.

As such, we neither share nor support this decision. We join the rest of the country's desire to be kept fully informed on the fate that awaits these institutions. In addition, we request that depositors and employees be treated with justice and fairness. [end recording]

(Jose Monzi Izquierdo) has reiterated an official position regarding the closure and intervention of the financial institutions will be announced after they receive a clear explanation of the issue; he has also expressed his desire to become actively involved in assisting the financial institutions due to their decision to trust the government's support.

Banks To Reopen 20 Jun; Guarantees Confirmed

PA1706001594 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 94

[From the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] A Finance Ministry bulletin states that the banks that were subject to intervention will reopen on 20 June. This bulletin confirms guarantees stipulated by law for deposits up to 4 million bolivares, an amount that covers all the claims [nominas] these banks have received.

Private commercial banks, which will provide the funds to make payments to depositors, have not made a decision yet on the purchasing of bonds to be issued by Fogade. Representatives of the banking sector expressed their surprise yesterday over the government decision to intervene eight financial institutions.

During a joint news conference, (Jose Monzi Izquierdo), president of the National Banking Council, and Juan Tomas Santana, president of the National Banking Association, said they do not agree with the decision, because the executive did not inform them.

(Izquierdo) asked for justice and fairness for employees and depositors of the intervened banks. Meanwhile, Santana said he does not disagree with the decision to intervene the banks, but he resents not being informed. Representatives of the banking sector reiterated that once they receive the government's explanations on the case, the financial sector will voice its official position.

Meanwhile, according to Congress President Eduardo Gomez Tamayo, the executive must give the public extensive explanations on the intervention of these financial institutions. Tamayo has said the prevailing circumstances of this sector are unsavory and alarming, because the fate of depositors has not yet been determined.

The Congress president has said the parliamentarian blocs are refining details to discuss constitutional reforms.

In another turn of events, the Chilean Government has offered financial counsel to our country to overcome the crisis triggered by the intervention of the eight banks. Chilean President Eduardo Frei has made this offer to his Venezuelan counterpart, Rafael Caldera, who met with Frei to discuss topical issues. The Chilean counsel could help our country a great deal, because Chile experienced a similar financial crisis in 1983, when the military regime intervened five private banks and closed two others. The cost of the Chilean bank intervention amounted to up to $4 billion-worth of subsidies. These five banks owe $3.5 billion to the Chilean Central Bank.

Police Find 42 Gasoline Bombs in School

PA1706022094 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2042 GMT 16 Jun 94

[Text] Caracas, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The Venezuelan police found 42 gasoline bombs at a high school in the capital today. Meanwhile, student protests against the government continue.

Orlando Hernandez, chief of the Metropolitan Police (PM), told the press his men had also found enough fuel

and containers to make an additional 50 Molotov cocktails. The materials were found at Andres Eloy Blanco High School.

Student demonstrations worsened in the last few hours, in protest of the repression against student activities, the high cost of living, the plans to increase fares for urban transportation, and the government's poor handling of the banking crisis.

Hundreds of depositors of the eight banks in which the government intervened yesterday gathered outside the head offices of these institutions in an attempt to pressure the government into allowing them to withdraw their money.

The government will administrate the funds of the eight intervened banks. Depositors will be allowed to have access to only a portion of their money.

A group of students from a high school in the western section of Caracas hurled rocks and gasoline bombs at riot police, who responded with tear gas to disperse the demonstrators. Two policemen were injured in the clashes and taken to nearby hospitals.

In other cities around the country, such as Maracaibo, Barquisimeto, and Valencia, protests continued for a third consecutive day. In light of this, the National Guard has moved in.

Local news media have reported 100 peasants were arrested in the town of Turen, 400 km from Caracas, after staging demonstrations to protest high prices and looting several stores.

Defense Minister Rafael Montero has accused Lieutenant Colonel Hugo Chavez Frias (who led the February 1992 coup attempt) of being one of the instigators of the recent wave of protests the country has experienced.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.